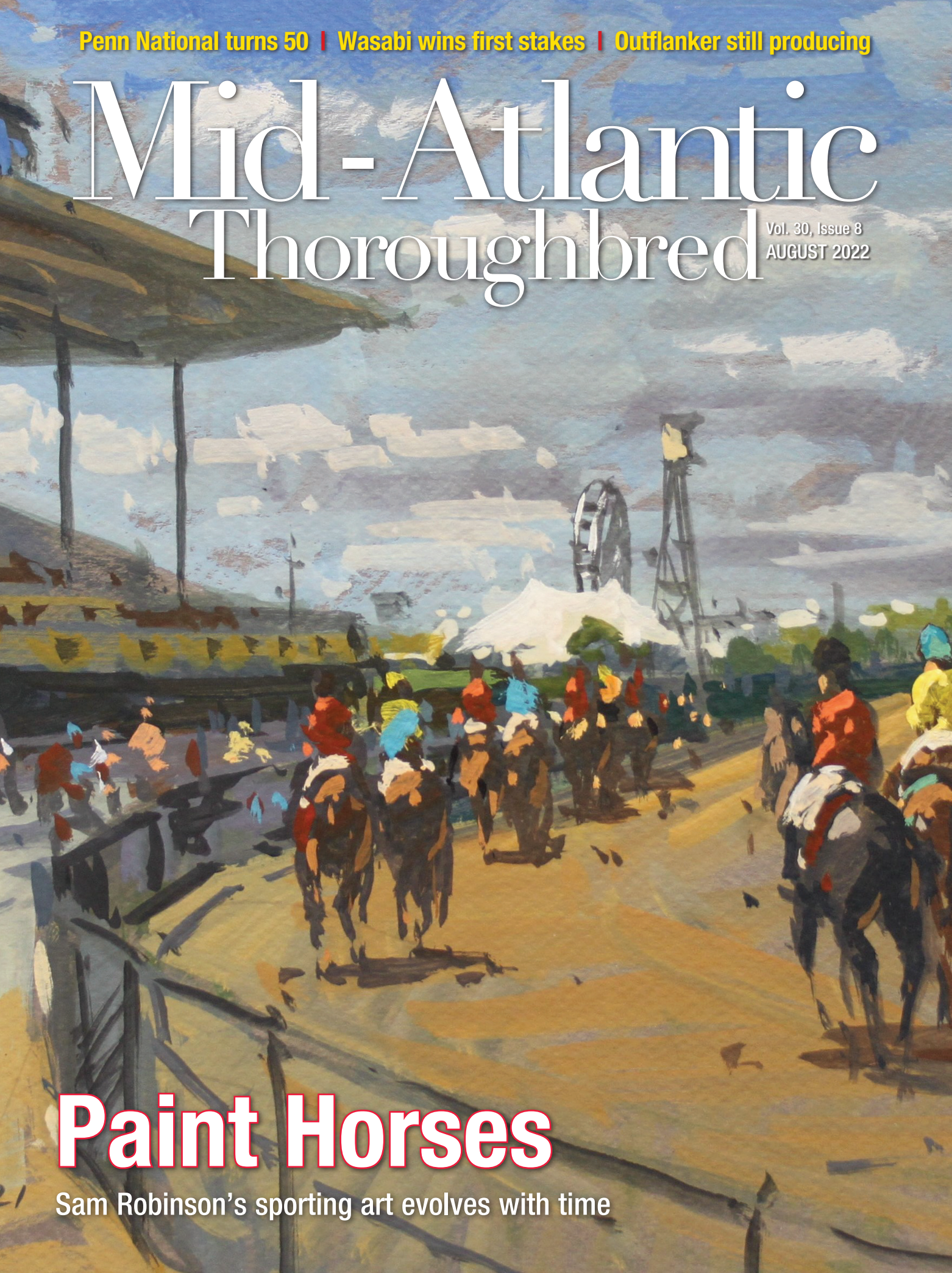
Penn National turns 50 | Wasabi wins first stakes | Outflanker still producing

Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

Vol. 30, Issue 8
AUGUST 2022



Paint Horses

Sam Robinson's sporting art evolves with time

Who is the sire of the future for the Mid-Atlantic?

Owned by and strongly supported at stud by Gainesway Farm, Roy and Gretchen Jackson, and Country Life Farm, DIVINING ROD burst into the Top-10 National 2nd-Crop Sire List in June after siring three new stakes horses and a super-impressive allowance winner.

With another 70 mares from the best breeders in the Mid-Atlantic during his 2022 Breeding Season, 10-year-old DIVINING ROD is poised to dominate the regional sire scene for years to come.

By **TAPIT** (sire of sensation FLIGHTLINE). Out of 3-time G1 winner **PRECIOUS KITTEN** (3/4-sister to leading sire KITTEN'S JOY).

Through June 30,

DIVINING ROD

was the only active stallion outside Kentucky to crack the 2nd-Crop Top-10. His 9 peers, and their Kentucky farms:

1. Gun Runner (Three Chimneys)
2. Keen Ice (Calumet)
3. Arrogate (Died)
4. Practical Joke (Ashford)
5. Cupid (Ashford)
6. Classic Empire (Ashford)
7. Connect (Lane's End)
8. Gormley (Spendthrift)
9. Mastery (Claiborne)
10. Divining Rod (Country Life)

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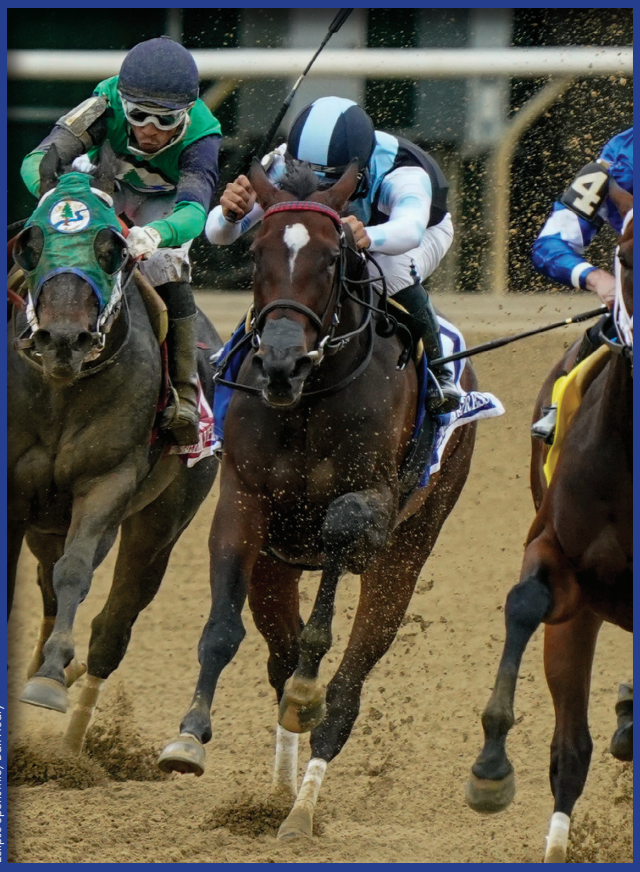
Hint: Divining Rod's success in the month of June



Eclipse Sportswire/Dan Heary

On June 11, DIVINE HUNTRESS

(bred in Maryland by Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Ricky L. Buckley, and Joshua Dreiband) picked up the $100,000 2nd-place purse in the G1 $500,000 Acorn Stakes at Belmont Park.

Jim McCue

On June 18, PETITION PRAYER

(bred in Maryland by Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd.) captured a $48,000 Laurel allowance in her first start since last fall's $100,000 Selima Stakes.

Coady Photography

On June 22, CLIMBER

(bred in Indiana by Dawn Martin) won the $100,000 Hoosier Breeders Sophomore Stakes at Horseshoe Indianapolis Racetrack.

Hoofprints, Inc.

On June 27, LOOSE ENDS

(bred in Pennsylvania by Gregory and Caroline Bentley) ran 2nd in the $100,000 Crowd Pleaser Stakes at PARX after a win at Delaware Park on June 16.

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In this issue

Robinson crafts art from sporting scenes

You've seen him at a steeplechase meet, the Maryland Million, out with the hounds and hunters, in the Pimlico stable area or maybe even at Ladew Topiary Gardens but Marylander Sam Robinson's art finds its way to a variety of places and continues to evolve. By Sandy McKee. Page 18

Penn National crafts 50 years of history

Hard up against the Blue Mountains near Harrisburg, Pa., Penn National Race Course hatched as an idea and simply kept going through construction delays, tough times, country-music concerts, auto racing and now as part of a successful casino/racing/gaming company. Fifty years later, it's a racetrack too. By Paul Halloran. Page 26

Wow Whata Summer upsets Penn Mile

Wow Whata Summer, trainer Chuck Lawrence and owner/breeder Jeremy Brooks (whose racing roots run through Maryland) upset Annapolis in the Grade 2 Penn Mile Stakes at Penn National. By Joe Clancy. Page 34

Old but young, Outflanker adds more stakes wins

Not many stallions add to their stakes-winning ways at age 28, but that's what Shamrock Farm's Outflanker did in June as Mama G's Wish and Nick Papagiorgio won stakes at Delaware Park and Laurel Park. By Joe Clancy. Page 38

Wasabi, Cruz make a breakthrough

Wasabi Ventures Stables and trainer Jesse Cruz win their first stakes–together–with Why Not Tonight in the Find at Laurel Park. By Joe Clancy. Page 40

Cover: **Summer Racing at Timonium by Sam Robinson.**

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$75,000 JAMEELA 3YO & Up, Fillies and Mares, 5½ furlongs, Turf

$75,000 MISS DISCO 3YO, Fillies, 7 furlongs

$75,000 STAR DE NASKRA 3YO, 7 furlongs

November 25

$75,000 HOWARD BENDER 3YO & Up, 7 furlongs

$75,000 POLITELY 3YO & Up, Fillies and Mares, 6 furlongs

December 3

$100,000 MD JUVENILE FUTURITY 2YO, 7 furlongs

$100,000 MD JUVENILE FILLY CHAMPIONSHIP 2YO, Fillies, 7 furlongs

Find it on MarylandThoroughbred.com

Maryland-Breds

Weekly Entries & Results
Alpha–by Horse, by Breeder, by Stallion

Maryland Sires

CURRENT ACTIVE SIRES
Today's Entries • Yesterday's Results
Runners by Year Listings

On our home page, the top pull-down menu for Stallions, you will now find Progeny entries/results. Listed are all of the day's entries for Maryland-sired runners, the previous day's results, and a Statistics button that allows you to sort by stallion name to view results by year (2020-2017). This is for current active stallions registered in the Maryland Fund program. We have also added a feature under the MD Breds tab that lists a week's worth of entries/results of Maryland-bred runners.

Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

Volume 30, Issue 8

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POST TIME

GREEN GIANT. Virginia's Colonial Downs jumped out to a banner start to its summer season July 11. Total handle set a record for Opening Day at more than $3 million and early stakes wins went to Largent, Determined Kingdom, Chambeau and Mo Clare's.

Coady Photography

11
COLONIAL DOWNS
10
2
COLONIAL DOWNS

Say It Again

"I'm a horse trainer, I gamble every day."
Jesse Cruz, when his friends ask if he bets on his horses

"Other guys get that every time. I don't usually get families and generations of families to train. That doesn't happen around Parx much."
Trainer Butch Reid, on training 2-year-old filly Vedareo—whose half-sister, champion Vequist, and dam Vero Amore—also raced for Reid and owner Swilcan Stable

"We're going to breed all our Outflanker mares."
Maryland breeder Gina Robb, about the impact of Horse of the Year Knicks Go (out of an Outflanker mare) on her breeding strategy

"It makes me really sad. I feel bad for the foals. Some years are harder than others. This year, it seems like the mares are worse about it than the foals for some reason."
Robb, echoing breeders all around the region, about the stress of weaning time

"It's been great therapy for me because outside of racing I have no patience and no understanding."
Owner/breeder, and tech venture capitalist, TK Kuegler, after saying that racing takes great patience and understanding

GO FIGURE

4 Wins for trainer Rudy Sanchez-Salomon at Laurel Park June 24. The victories came with Albertano (fourth race), Samui Sunset (sixth), The Wolfman (eighth) and Askin for a Baskin (ninth).

8 Condition books open on trainer Chuck Lawrence's desk at Fair Hill Training Center in mid-June.

28 Equibase tabs open on Joe Clancy's web browser while writing an article about Wow Whata Summer for this magazine.

14 Rank of Maryland's Divining Rod on the national second-crop sire leaderboard. Standing at Country Life Farm, the son of Tapit had 21 winners from 47 starters—and progeny earnings of $1,146,968 through July 17. His 88 foals were the fewest among the top 15. Fellow Marylander Blofeld was 20th with 14 winners from 22 starters and 48 foals.

164.40 Profit on a $2 win bet on all 38 starts by Chuck Lawrence-trained horses in graded stakes in the last 10 seasons (through July 16). From 38 attempts, he won four (with win payoffs of $168.60, $17, $33.40, $21.40) with five seconds and three thirds. The $21.40 win payoff came via a dead heat as the 23-1 Glorious Empire (Ire) couldn't be separated from the 6-1 Channel Maker in the 2018 Bowling Green Stakes at Saratoga or the number would be even higher.

Morning Glories. Photographer Brittlan Wall captured some early action at Laurel Park in July "Quite frankly in a light I never knew I could see there (or just maybe never got there early enough to)" is how she put it. She wasn't wrong.

MILESTONES

FASIG-TIPTON PHOTO

Maryland-bred yearling filly by Audible sells for $125,000 at Fasig-Tipton Kentucky July sale.

Sold: For six-figures, a Maryland-bred filly and a Pennsylvania-bred colt at Fasig-Tipton Kentucky's July Sale of yearlings July 12. A dark bay Audible filly bred by The Elkstone Group brought a final bid of $125,000 from Talla Racing and Rockingham Ranch, Sweetwater Trading, agent. From the first crop of her sire, the Jan. 27 filly consigned by Brookdale Sales is the second foal out of the stakes-winning Miss Freeze, by Frost Giant. Her winning second dam Reata's Vixen is a half-sister to nine-time stakes winner Royal Currier, an earner of $869,569. Selling for $110,000 to Iona Robinson was a son of Collected bred by Forgotten Land Investment Inc. His stakes-placed dam Giddy Up (by High Cotton) is a half-sister to stakes winners I'm Steppin' It Up, Thunder Brew and Cuppy Cake and he hails from the family of champion Beautiful Pleasure and Grade 1 winner and sire Mecke.

Reached: His 1,000th win, jockey Tyler Conner July 9 at Parx Racing aboard My Dixie Lass. Conner launched his career June 14, 2014, at Penn National and got his first win at the same track Aug. 1 that year. Now in his ninth season, Conner won more than 100 races five of his first eight years and is closing in this season with 88 through mid-July and a career high 24 percent win ratio. He is dueling with Julio Hernandez at the top of the Penn National

EQUI-PHOTO, INC.

Tyler Conner records his 1,000th career win aboard My Dixie Lass at Parx Racing in June.

SUCCESS
14 Graded Stakes Winners thru June 30 From the barns of
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MILESTONES

standings and leads by earnings. One of the biggest scores of his career came in June with the upset by Wow Whata Summer in Penn National's biggest race, the Penn Mile-G2.

Resigned: As president and chief operating officer of Equibase, Sal Sinatra. "I am stepping aside at this point so that I may dedicate my time to personal issues that require my full attention," said Sinatra. "I am grateful to the members of the Equibase Management Committee for their support of me and to my co-workers at Equibase Company and The Jockey Club for their help and kind assistance since I joined Equibase one year ago." Ian Highet, chairman of Equibase, said that Jim Gagliano, president and chief operating officer of The Jockey Club, assumes the role of president of Equibase in the interim. Equibase will commence a search for a new president, which will include internal and external candidates. "We thank Sal for his contributions to Equibase, in particular his work to facilitate the development of the Equibase E-GPS, the hybrid of light beam timing and GPS tracking," said Highet. Equibase Company is a partnership between subsidiaries of The Jockey Club and the Thoroughbred Racing Associations of North America and serves as the Thoroughbred industry's official database.

Hired: By the National Thoroughbred Racing Association, Jordan Bonfitto to serve as director of government affairs. Bonfitto will be based in the new Washington, D.C., office and will lead the organization's advocacy efforts alongside president and CEO Tom Rooney, a former U.S. congressman. "We're excited to have Jordan join our team to help advocate the issues critical to the Thoroughbred racing industry," Rooney said. "Jordan's experience in the executive branch and on Capitol Hill will be a huge asset as we build out NTRA's presence in Washington." Prior to joining NTRA, Bonfitto served as Director of Government Affairs for the Global Cold Chain Alliance where he oversaw the legislative portfolio and helped expand the association's advocacy initiatives. Bonfitto was also director of external and intergovernmental affairs at the U.S. Department of Agriculture as well as an agriculture policy advisor for the National Economic Council at the White House.

Presented: The 10th Welfare and Safety of the Racehorse Summit at Keeneland in Lexington, Ky., June 22. Co-hosted by The Jockey Club and Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation, the summit–in-person for the first time since 2018–featured a range of presentations on the progress of the industry to promote the health of equine and human athletes while focusing on the significance of data in facilitating these gains. A video replay can be found on the Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation website. Topics included "Building A Thoroughbred Two-Year-Old For Racing," with Dr. Larry Bramlage; "Equine Safety and Welfare-A California Perspective, by Dr. Dionne Benson; and "Positron Emission Tomography: Knowledge Gained From Over 1,000 Racehorse Fetlocks," from Dr. Mathieu Spriet. Among accomplishments from previous summits are the Equine Injury Database; the Jockey Injury Database; the Racing Surfaces Testing Laboratory; a uniform trainer test and study guide; the racing surfaces white paper and publication of educational bulletins for track maintenance; the publication of stallion durability statistics; *The Hoof: Inside and Out* DVD; protocols for horses working off of the veterinarian's list; recommended regulations that void the claim of horses suffering injuries during a race; and inclement weather protocols.

NAMES OF THE MONTH

Too Many Twizzlers. Mark Grier's 3-year-old colt, a winner at Monmouth Park in June, is by Twirling Candy.

Twitty City. The Florida-bred 4-year-old, twice a winner at Delaware Park in June, is out of Conway Two Step.

THE RACING BIZ
The Independent Voice for Mid-Atlantic Racing and Breeding

For trainer Joy, 1,000 wins, one complicated journey: Trainer Kevin Joy has slept in tack rooms, seen his stable dwindle to nothing, and watched as the circuit he raced on died. So 1,000 wins feels pretty good. Ted Black reports.

For Arlington horsemen, Colonial Downs a welcoming spot: Colonial Downs always attracts an eclectic group of horsemen from around the country, this year including several previously stabled at Arlington Park, reports Nick Hahn.

Off the Pace–Catching up with Chris Sobocinski: Mike Valiante catches up with Racing Information Coordinator Chris Sobocinski, linemaker and PR maven for Delaware Park.

Snippets–A Racing Family Affair: A weekend in July provided plenty of thrills and satisfying outcomes–and opportunities for racing families to celebrate. Frank Vespe spoke with jockeys Jeremy Rose, Eric Cancel and Sheldon Russell.

Backtracks–Challedon, dominant in Maryland and beyond: Maryland-bred Challedon became the nation's first two-time Horse of the Year after dominating 1939 and 1940. Jennifer Kelly tells his story.

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Penn National Heroes

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Ben's Cat strolls the paddock before the 2014 Fabulous Strike, which he won for the third time. In 10 Penn National starts he also won the Pennsylvania Governor's Cup, and was stakes-placed four times.

Penn National Race Course opened 50 years ago this month, and has hosted a handful of giants in the game—Hall of Famer John Henry, regional dynamo Ben's Cat, Grade 1 winner Princess of Sylmar, Breeders' Cup winner Da Hoss, sprint star Fabulous Strike and plenty more—but the track's reputation was made by other, less well-known Thoroughbreds.

A look into the archives at Equibase (special thanks to Rhonda Norby for the digging), which date to 1976, came up with these gems:

Lucky Fling: Maryland-bred son of What Luck bred by Elbert Lee Parrish started 141 times at Penn National and won 28.

Charlie's Bow: West Virginia-bred son of Bunny's Babe, bred by Charles Bowman, won 27 of 118 at the track.

Major Wager: Maryland-bred son of Coppabarb, bred by Phil Grove, went 27-for-139.

Regal Peace: Maryland-bred daughter of Peace for Peace, bred by Alan Kline, won 25 of 104.

Tom Freda (25 wins) and **Deb's Equal** (15) lead the way by starts with 158 apiece.

Fans might also remember Pennsylvania-bred **Win Man,** who won 48 races in his long career. Sixteen came at Penn National, including nine in 1990.

Among jockeys, **Arnold Iliescu**'s 2,227 (again, the count begins in 1976 so it's higher) wins show the way over **Jose Luis Flores** (2,215) and **Clinton Potts** (2,211). **David Cora** leads the active list with 2,206 through July 16.

Bruce Kravets leads the trainers' list with 3,094 wins—through July 16—at Penn National, well clear of **Mario Beneito**'s 2,318. **Harry Thompson Jr.** is third with 2,187.

Mid-Atlantic-Bred Stakes Winners June 11–July 7

Maryland-bred

ALOHA WEST, dk.b./br.h., 2017, Hard Spun—Island Bound, by Speightstown. B-Robert T. Manfuso & Katharine M. Voss; O-Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners; T-Wayne M. Catalano. $95,000 Kelly's Landing Overnight, Churchill Downs, July 2.

EDIE MEENY MINY MO, dk.b./br.f., 2018, Upstart—Plum, by Pure Prize. B-Dark Hollow Farm; O-Holly Hill Stables, LLC; T-Michelle Hemingway $100,000 Regret, Monmouth Park, July 2.

FILLE D'ESPRIT, b.m., 2016, Great Notion—Sweet Valor, by No Armistice. B-Sweet Spirits Stables LLC; O-C J I Phoenix Group & No Guts No Glory Farm; T-John J. Robb. $100,000 Susquehanna Valley, Penn National, June 17.

HALFINTHEWRAPPER, b.m., 2017, Great Notion—Bear Slayer, by Two Punch. B-Dr. Morgan Dove & Karin Wurttemberger; O-Lets Dance Stable; T-Mike Taphorn. $35,750 La Verendrye, Assiniboia Downs, June 22.

MALIBU BEAUTY, b.f., 2018, Buffum—Slow and Steady, by Malibu Moon. B/O-ZWP Stable Inc. & Non Stop Stable; T-Gary A. Capuano. $50,000 Peach Blossom, Delaware Park, July 6.

MAMA G'S WISH, dk.b./br.f., 2019, Outflanker—Gracie's Hero, by Great Notion. B/O-No Guts No Glory Farm; T-John J. Robb. $50,000 Lewes, Delaware Park, June 22.

NICK PAPAGIORGIO, dk.b./br.g., 2016, Outflanker—Lady Lear, by Lear Fan. B-Cynthia Pence & Philip Spingler; O-Louis A. Bisso Jr.; T-Michael A. LeCesse. $75,000 Find, Laurel Park, June 19.

TAPPIN CAT, b.g., 2016, Tritap—Elusory, by Broken Vow. B-Paul L. Fowler Jr.; O-Non Stop Stable; T-Gary Capuano. $50,000 Sussex, Delaware Park, July 7.

WHERESHETOLDMETOGO, ch.g., 2015, El Padrino—Undisputed Legend, by Domestic Dispute. B-David H. Wade; O-Madaket Stables LLC, Ten Strike Racing, Michael E. Kisber & BTR Racing Inc.; T-Brittany Russell. $100,000 Alapocas Run, Delaware Park, July 2.

WHY NOT TONIGHT, b.f., 2018, Tapiture—Pay the Lady, by Not For Love. B-Mr. & Mrs. Charles McGinnes; O-Wasabi Ventures Stables LLC; T-Jesus Cruz. $75,000 All Brandy, Laurel Park, June 19.

New Jersey-bred

OUR MAN LUKE, ch.g., 2017, Redeemed—Cigno d'Oro, by Tour d'Or. B/O-G.J. Stables; T-Luis Carvajal Jr. $85,000 Sunny Ridge, Monmouth Park, June 12.

Pennsylvania-bred

CHUB WAGON, b.m., 2017, Hey Chub—Takin the Plunge, by Lion Heart. B-Joe-Dan Farm & George Chestnut; O-Daniel J. Lopez & George Chestnut; T-Guadalupe Preciado. $100,000 Power by Far, Parx Racing, June 27.

LEADER OF THE BAND, b.f., 2018, Bandbox—Catsuit, by Sir Cat. B/O-SMD Limited; T-John C. Servis. $100,000 Lady's Secret, Monmouth Park, June 11.

UNDERCOVER KITTY, b.g., 2019, Kitten's Joy—Judy In Disguise (GB), by Elusive City. B-Gregory & Caroline Bentley Breeders; O-Runnymoore Racing LLC; T-Cathal A. Lynch. $100,000 Crowd Pleaser, Parx Racing, June 27.

WITTY, gr./ro.g., 2019, Great Notion—Zeezee Zoom-zoom, by Congrats. B/O-Elizabeth M. Merryman; T-McLane Hendriks. $50,000 Stanton, Delaware Park, June 29.

Virginia-bred

EXECUTIVE CHEF, gr./ro.g., 2019, Cairo Prince—Cynisca, by Munnings. B-Chance Farm; O-John Maryanski, Janene Maryanski & Riverbend Stable; T-Blaine D. Wright. $50,000 Auburn, Emerald Downs, June 19.

GREEN UP, dk.b./br.f., 2019, Upstart—Green Punch, by Two Punch. B-Althea Richards; O-Team Valor International LLC; T-Todd A. Pletcher. $100,000 Boiling Springs, Monmouth Park, July 3.

West Virginia-bred

HYPOTHESIS, b.g., 2017, Algorithms—Ideal Thoughts, by Not For Love. B-Francis W. Daniel III ; O-Jill Daniel; T-Crystal G. Pickett. $75,000 It's Only Money, Charles Town, June 11.

SILKY SERENA, gr./ro.f., 2019, Fiber Sonde—Safe At First, by Honour and Glory. B-Cynthia O'Bannon; O-Cynthia E. McKee; T-John D. McKee. $75,000 Fancy Buckles, Charles Town, June 18.

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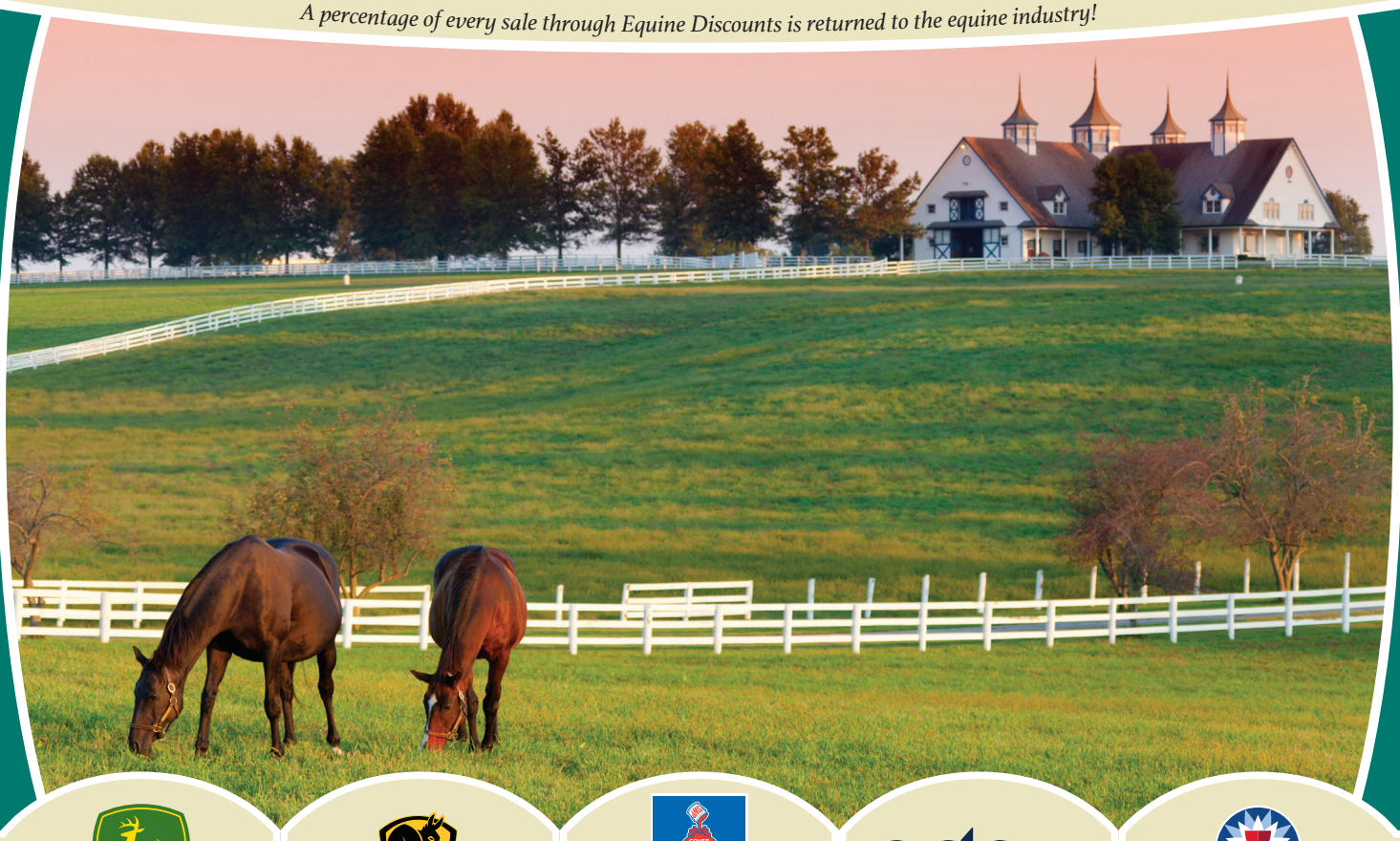

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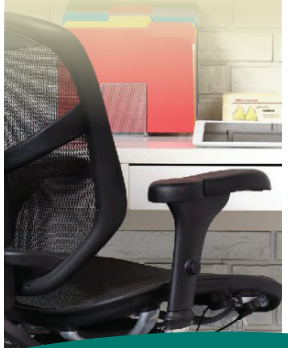

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Maryland career program celebrates year five

By Sara Gordon

The 2022 MTCP class at their visit to Fair Hill Training Center, left to right: Marina Rohbeck, Liz Ridenour, Kendal Stokes, Ashlin Dohler

In its fifth year, the Maryland Thoroughbred Career Program helped a variety of college students explore career opportunities within Maryland's Thoroughbred industry hosted four participants June 6-10.

Participants spent the week learning about the state and connecting with industry leaders within the sales, breeding, training, equine rehabilitation and therapy, veterinary care, steeplechase training and racing, and aftercare segments of the industry. This year's group came with varying levels of experience, but with a passion for pursuing a career within the equine industry, with interests ranging from becoming a veterinarian, to studying genetics and working as a bloodstock agent.

Ashlin Dohler. Port Deposit, Md. An upcoming junior at Delaware Valley University studying equine science with a pre-veterinary track, Dohler also works for Wendy and Travis Kinnamon at Break Away Farm in Kirkwood, Pa. She plans to attend veterinary school.

"I decided to apply because I have always loved Thoroughbreds and I wanted to learn more about all aspects of the industry that I want to be a part of. It was also in my home state, so I wanted to see the opportunities around me," said Dohler. "Although I had some experience in the industry I wanted to learn more. I wanted to see the whole process from start to end."

After riding Thoroughbreds when she was younger, Dohler started foxhunting and riding in jumper shows before working at a racing barn as a groom and exercise rider. She has also assisted the starter at steeplechase races.

One aspect of the week stood out—discussion of the Beyond the Wire program and the importance of aftercare

"It is something I found very interesting," she said, "as I did not know much about what the industry does for horses when they are done racing."

It also helped her home in on what she'd like to pursue career-wise.

"My career interests have somewhat changed. While I still want to be an equine vet, it has shown me specifically what I am interested in. I learned that breeding is not the path I want to go down, but I am interested in the ambulatory/emergency side of veterinary medicine. It also showed me another thing I could be interested in, such as managing an aftercare program."

Her advice for any future MTCP participants: "Take advantage of any opportunities that may arise and do not be afraid to ask questions. Stay for a few nights with the other participants, because it really brought us closer. I made some really great friends during the week that I hope to know for a long time."

Kendal Stokes. Horse Shoe, N.C. A junior at North Carolina State University studying animal science, Stokes has always loved horses and has ridden off-track Thoroughbred "Reddy" for seven years. Through that experience and interacting with other Thoroughbreds, she became intrigued by the racing industry, particularly the bloodstock side.

"From the breeding operations to the aftercare facilities, and everything in between, I learned so much and had so much fun. Going to the Fair Hill Training Center and the races at Laurel Park were highlights, because I never had the chance to do anything like that," she said. "I am most interested in a career in bloodstock or something involving aftercare."

The experience offered a wealth of knowledge and a variety of opportunities to make connections, but also emboldened Stokes to define the path she'd like to take.

"My career aspirations/interests haven't changed, but they seem much more attainable after this experience. One thing we heard a lot over the course of the week was that if you have a passion for something, there is a way to make a career out of it," she said. "After I finish college, my next goals are to apply for and hopefully attend the Kentucky Equine Management Internship program after I graduate, then apply to the Godolphin Flying Start program."

With a new perspective, Stokes has this advice for the industry in terms of recruiting the next generation: "I know I personally was drawn to the industry because of my relationship with my OTTB, so I think continuing to expand and improve

the aftercare market will help draw more people to the industry."

Liz Ridenour. Catonsville, Md. A first-year student at the Community College of Baltimore County, Ridenour has been involved with horses since she was young and boards a horse at Helmore Farm, where she also works. She plans to transfer to the University of Maryland next spring to study animal science as a pre-veterinary major, with an equine emphasis.

"The highlight for me was visiting the Fair Hill Training Center, because of the opportunity to meet Dr. Kathy Anderson and Bruce Jackson. I found their careers the most appealing, as I want to pursue a career in the equine sports medicine field, likely as a veterinarian," she said. "The program was very helpful, since I was able to shadow the vets and see what their daily lives are like, which helped solidify what I want to do in my career."

Along with the unique behind-the-scenes look at a large spectrum of careers within the industry, Ridenour found the networking opportunities invaluable.

"There were so many incredible jobs and internship opportunities that I would never have known about if it were not for the MTCP, which made me realize how important it is to be proactive about finding job opportunities and meeting people."

Ridenour hoped to secure an internship with one of the connections she made, while looking ahead to next summer, where she hopes to create a unique internship experience as part of the Maryland Horse Foundation's Work Experience Program.

She was most impressed by the Maryland Horse Industry Board's Horse Discovery Centers and hopes those efforts can be expanded to recruit more people to the industry, racing specifically.

"As someone whose parents are not involved in the horse industry, I remember it was a struggle for my mother to find a stable that would teach me lessons when I first started," she said. "If there were more places where younger people could go and meet horses and learn to ride, it would help instill a love of horses. Also, it seems to me like there are very few ways for younger people and children to get involved or learn about horse racing. I know there is a College Day at the Races at the [Maryland] State Fair, maybe there could be a modified version for younger kids."

Marina Rohbeck. Morgantown, W.Va. A senior at West Virginia University, studying animal and nutritional sciences with a minor in equine studies, Rohbeck has expanded her knowledge through hands-on classes. A lifelong horse lover, who rides and cares for them regularly, she plans to attend veterinary school.

With no previous experience with the Thoroughbred industry, Rohbeck came into the program with eyes and mind wide open.

"The MTCP was one of the best experiences I have ever gotten to partake in. It was full of so many learning opportunities and information. One of the highlights were the tours of Country Life Farm and Merryland Farm because I was able to see a live breeding and an ultrasound of a pregnant mare. Now I am really interested in reproduction," she said. "One of the careers in the industry I found the most appealing was training, especially at Fair Hill. I also just found the idea of galloping or breezing for a trainer pretty thrilling."

Though her dream to become an equine veterinarian has not changed, the program helped Rohbeck focus her interests.

"I am definitely thinking of specializing in reproduction and mare care now," she said. "I now see how important it is."

Her advice for future participants: "Take notes. It is so hard to remember so much great information after each visit."

Special thanks to the host farms, facilities and industry members, including:

Cricket Goodall, executive director of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association, and the staff in Reisterstown.

Paget Bennett, director of Fasig-Tipton Midlantic sales, and **Sabrina Moore**, consignor, breeder, and manager of GreenMount Farm, at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic sales pavilion in Timonium.

Debbie Moorefield, equine caretaker, at Sagamore Farm in Reisterstown.

Laurie Calhoun, co-founder and director of the Foxie G Foundation, and her staff in Union Bridge.

Maryland Horse Industry Board chairman **Jim Steele** and staffer **Anne Litz**, along with Beyond the Wire's **Jessica Hammond**.

Dr. Chris Smith, Dr. Sarah DiLodovico and **Karlie Bosley**, practice manager, at Foxhall Equine Rehabilitation in Fallston.

David and JoAnn Hayden, and farm manager **John Foster**, of Dark Hollow Farm and Safely Home Farm in Upperco.

Christy Holden, general manager of Country Life and Merryland farms, **Kim Crowell**, Merryland broodmare manager, **Sonja Aleksic**, Merryland trainer in Bel Air and Hydes.

Sally Goswell, manager of Fair Hill Training Center, **Dr. Kathy Anderson** of Equine Veterinary Care, **Bruce Jackson** of Fair Hill Equine Therapy Center and trainer **Phil Schoenthal**, all based at Fair Hill.

Dr. David Scofield and the staff at Select Breeders Services in Chesapeake City.

Steeplechase trainer **Jack Fisher** and his staff at Kingfisher Farm in Butler.

Charlie Fenwick at the Maryland Hunt Cup course in Glyndon.

Ashley Hubbard, huntsman of the Green Spring Valley Hounds, at their kennel in Reisterstown.

Tim Luzius, assistant general manager of the Maryland Jockey Club, and his staff at Laurel Park in Laurel. ◆

Top Mid-Atlantic sires of 2022

Based on 2022 earnings through July 17

(D-deceased; R-retired)

General earnings

Sire	*rnrs*	*wnrs*	*earnings*
Great Notion (Md)	81	30	$2,129,834
Jump Start (Pa-D)	87	42	1,942,028
Wicked Strong (Pa)	127	53	1,831,975
Uncle Lino (Md)	67	38	1,731,582
Golden Lad (Md)	69	39	1,566,239
Fiber Sonde (WV)	55	29	1,349,913
Mosler (Md)	67	28	1,342,059
Weigelia (Pa)	48	26	1,212,040
Bourbon Courage (Md)	51	20	1,160,622
Divining Rod (Md)	47	21	1,146,968
Windsor Castle (WV-D)	65	32	1,058,999
Bandbox (Md-D)	38	20	1,032,422
Warrior's Reward (Pa)	74	30	961,543
Imagining (Md)	51	19	909,287
Blofeld (Md)	22	14	724,762
Peace and Justice (Pa)	38	17	661,400
Friesan Fire (Md)	43	17	629,069
Uptowncharlybrown (Pa)	43	12	623,744
Holy Boss (Md)	28	11	587,218
Buffum (Md-D)	27	14	573,255

2-year-old earnings

Sire	*rnrs*	*wnrs*	*earnings*
†Sea Wizard (NJ)	2	1	$98,537
Holy Boss (Md)	4	1	54,492
Great Notion (Md)	7	1	53,905
Blofeld (Md)	4	1	52,420
Weigelia (Pa)	3	2	51,370
Bourbon Courage (Md)	1	1	48,668
Uptowncharlybrown (Pa)	7	0	46,043
Wicked Strong (Pa)	4	1	45,545
Friesan Fire (Md)	3	0	25,780
Warrior's Reward (Pa)	4	1	23,968

† Freshman sire

Call Waiting

LYDIA A. WILLIAMS

As the founder and director of The Foxie G Foundation, Laurie Calhoun is accustomed to receiving "those" calls. You know the ones—alerts from fellow rescuers who come upon a registered Thoroughbred while flipping lips at auctions. The rallying cries indicate that a horse is in the slaughter pipeline and the clock is ticking. In her role, Calhoun has seen and heard more than most horsemen can imagine. But five years ago, one call stopped her in her tracks.

"I got a call from some advocates who were up at New Holland that there was a Thoroughbred there getting ready to go through the ring by the name of Call Waiting. And I was like 'OH MY GOD!' The horse is big, and he's beautiful, just lovely. How did he end up there?"

Calhoun knew the horse through Mike Trombetta, his last trainer. While still operating as Summer Wind Farm, she and her husband Jerry had several layups for him, including Call Waiting. Calhoun called Trombetta that day and relayed the news.

"You've got to be kidding me," came the response.

"Mike is really, really responsible and caring," Calhoun said. "He was really upset when I reached him. He's so cautious and does such a good job rehoming his horses."

As many trainers do, Trombetta utilizes an agreement when placing former trainees with new owners for second careers. It stipulates that if the owner can no longer care for the horse, Trombetta will take the animal back with no questions asked.

"We were fond of Call Waiting; he was good to us. After he was done racing, we found him a home," Trombetta said. "These people took him and cared for him for years. And then, without us ever knowing why, he wound up in a bad place. So we bought him back."

He had to outbid a kill buyer to do it, but there was no way Trombetta was going to allow Call Waiting to slip through the cracks.

"We try to be as responsible as we can," he said, "because it's a bad situation and there are some pretty unscrupulous people out there [at sales]. I've saved several horses over the years."

He claimed the 3-year-old gelding for $30,000 out of his third start at Laurel Park Jan. 12, 2000, for himself, his brother and his father, who operate as R.D.M. Racing Stable. Bred in Florida by Dr. W.S. Karutz, Call Waiting is by Pick Up the Phone out of the Rajab mare Romantic Beauty. That was a hefty sum for the partners 22 years ago, as Trombetta's operation was considerably smaller than it is now.

Call Waiting's first race for his new connections caused more than a bit of buyers' remorse.

"When we claimed him and he had some problems, I thought 'Boy, I might be in trouble here.'"

"He had a chip in his knee and had surgery," said Trombetta's assistant Tana Aubrey, for whom Call Waiting was and is a special favorite. "I looked after him the whole time we had him. He won 10 races for us and was such a sweet horse. I loved him."

Trombetta gave the horse the necessary downtime after the chip removal. A few more starts convinced the trainer to try him on the grass, and the tumblers clicked.

"We put him on the turf and he loved it," Aubrey said. "Five, five-and-a-half [furlongs] on the grass was his thing. He never won a stake, but he won plenty of races."

"Call Waiting was one of our better ones, that's for sure," Trombetta said in reference to his family's partnership. "We're not high-dollar investors; we'll buy horses at sales and this and that. After the surgery, we gave him time, and when we brought him back, he did nothing but run hard for many years. He was good to everybody involved."

Their $30,000 investment ran until age 9, made 65 starts and retired with a record of 10-10-13 and $212,140.

"Any time they can win a bunch of races and make a few hundred thousand bucks, it's pretty much above average," Trombetta said.

With Call Waiting's safety ensured by the winning bid at New Holland, Trombetta entrusted him to Calhoun at 125-acre Foxie G Foundation in Union Bridge, Md.

"The horse was 20 when he came here, but he was in wonderful condition," Calhoun said. "He's 16.3, a big, strong, stout horse. He'd been through a little bit just from the whole process of the dealer's yard and the sale, but he was the same lovely horse he'd always been."

Shortly after his arrival, the adopter of another Foxie G horse was looking for a companion.

"Call Waiting had probably been with us for eight months at that point, and we were being very cautious about where he might go. But he was still able to do a little something, and he liked the interaction. She took beautiful care of him. And I told her when she was finished riding, he could come back to us and retire."

He spent two years with the new owner, who eventually downsized and returned Call Waiting and her original adoptee to Foxie G. He automatically joined the Sanctuary herd, meaning that he will remain there for the rest of his life.

"So now Call is out with what we call The Old People Group," Calhoun said. "We have four of them. He's in a mixed herd because he loves the ladies. He gets a little naughty with the other geldings. He gets pushy, bossy and dominant–a little stalliony with them. But the mares just adore him."

Another Trombetta retiree also resides at Foxie G–multiple graded stakes-placed Bad Debt, now 15. The winner of 15 races from 60 starts, the son of Grand Reward earned $838,330.

"Bad Debt was tremendously good to us," said Trombetta. "We retired him seven years ago; we claimed him as well and he made over $800,000. We've had a great relationship with Laurie for years and years. We try to get our retirees placed as properly as we can."

Aubrey couldn't be happier that her old friend is guaranteed the safe and happy retirement he deserves.

"I remember a guy on the backside of our barn at Laurel had two small children. They disappeared for a few minutes one day, and one was [in Call Waiting's stall] standing directly under him and the other one was hanging in his tail climbing up like a rope. He never moved or even flinched, he just let them play and climb on him like he was a jungle gym. He is such a gentle giant." ◆

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TOD MARKS

HISA rollout left plenty of concerns

If you're reading this, you have some knowledge of the new Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority regulations which went into effect July 1.

Created by federal legislation passed in 2020, the authority and its various components are meant to create uniform and meaningful structure to national racing regulations—covering racetrack safety, anti-doping and medication, and other areas. The first step of HISA regulation involved registering equine and human participants into the new system, plus implementing racetrack safety rules.

Anti-doping and medication will wait until next year, but other regulations about horseshoes, riding crop use for jockeys, veterinary records and treatments, claiming and such went into place this summer. As the deadline loomed, nearly 40,000 participants were registered, and 20 states under HISA authority were in the process of reaching an agreement or understanding on implementation of the new law.

Of course, this being American Thoroughbred racing, it's a work in progress. How could it not be, with racing regulated by the various state racing commissions for decades?

HISA is being challenged in court by the National Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association while the Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association sent a lengthy response to HISA's draft of anti-doping and medication control protocol and related regulations. The racing commission in Texas rejected HISA's first steps, costing state tracks a simulcast signal (import and export). That puts the entire Texas Thoroughbred industry at risk.

At Belterra Park in Ohio, stewards incorrectly disqualified a horse for parimutuel purposes because a jockey violated the new HISA rule for whip infractions. Whip rules are meant to be enforced for purse money only, and are not meant to impact wagering payoffs. At Colonial Downs in Virginia, three steeplechase jockeys were fined and suspended for violating the HISA whip rule though in other areas steeplechase races are not included in HISA's early implementation.

Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred has not devoted much space to the HISA rollout, mainly because of the fluidity (see previous paragraphs). There are federal and state court cases brought by opponents, and an open letter written by a supportive horsemen's group with critical feedback. Other pieces seem to jump on and off the drawing board, or at least be subject to change and interpretation. That makes covering HISA with any kind of depth or quality difficult in a monthly magazine, though we did attempt to schedule an interview with HISA board chair Charlie Scheeler (a retired Maryland attorney and federal prosecutor) last year and were rebuffed.

You can find up-to-date information about HISA, and I'd encourage anyone connected to racing to do so, at hisaus.org. Go, click, read, be informed. If you're an owner, trainer, jockey or other "covered" individual, ask your state's horsemen's association or breeders' organization for help.

On the website, there are handbooks for trainers, regulatory veterinarians, attending veterinarians, educational materials and even a link to a Paulick Report video interview with HISA's Lisa Lazarus and John Roach.

I want HISA to work. It pretty much must work. It might be the last, best big step racing can take. The days of state-by-state racing regulation of the major issues—doping, medication, penalties, officiating, horse welfare, jockey safety—should end. There should be a national governing body, with real impact. Medication, anti-doping, licensing, penalties for violations and all the other bits and pieces should be uniform across all racetracks—or, if it must be, uniform through various tiers. A horse running in Pennsylvania should be under the same regulatory and safety principles as one running in New York. The sport made massive progress—especially in the Mid-Atlantic—on uniformity across state lines before HISA (with a great deal of work and compromise). As an extension of that thinking, implemented nationally, HISA makes sense for the industry.

But, all that being said (or written), I also want HISA to make sense for industry participants and those first steps didn't inspire confidence in the cohesiveness needed to make this work. It's a big job, a really big job, so HISA organizers deserve some slack but horses, breeders, owners, trainers, jockeys, veterinarians, stable employees and so on need to know how this is supposed to work. Some worry that HISA regulation will mean fewer racing opportunities. That's a real concern. And people in racing feel real pressure, every day, to make their businesses work—and to balance equine performance with equine health/safety/regulation.

If I were in charge, and clearly I'm not, I would have hammered out more industry buy-in—laugh all you want, but this would look different without lawsuits, dug-in racing commissions and horsemen's groups and bad stewards' decisions—before HISA came to be. Alas, this being horse racing, that task was probably impossible and here we are. ◆

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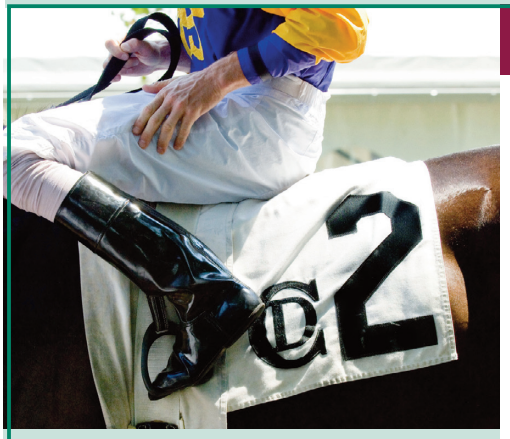

Also closing Saturday, September 17, 2022 is **The DTHA Governor's Day Stake** and **The George Rosenberger Memorial** with the run date for both on October 1, 2022. Both stakes are restricted to horses which have started at Delaware Park in 2022 (stake races excluded). *A $50,000 purse bonus will be added to these two stakes for Delaware Certified eligible horses that run and finish 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Purse total will be $150,000 for DCTP horses.*

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BARRIE B REIGHTLER

Artist at Work

With new post at Ladew, Robinson paints toward progress

BY SANDRA MCKEE

Sam Robinson took a long, circuitous path to his life's calling, a passion that was right there, all the time, waiting for him, virtually in his own backyard.

For Robinson, his career has been like a demanding point-to-point race, which is perhaps fitting for one of the area's most respected equine artists. It wasn't until one day in 2007, when George Mahoney Jr., a master of the hounds at Green Spring Valley Hounds, commissioned him to paint his portrait that enlightenment arrived.

It was then he came face-to-face with the subject that would inspire him and incapsulate everything he loves about his work.

"Not that long ago," Robinson says, even now amazed at how long it took to find the horses, hunts and countryside that was literally all around him, "I thought, 'I better go out and see what this business is all about if I want to do a realistic portrait.' And I was absolutely gobsmacked. I could not believe what I was looking at. It was such an amazing pageant. And my particular subject that day was one of these guys in his red jacket sitting on a horse.

"I was really entranced. . . I realized this combines everything I want to do. It's got landscape painting. It's got these fascinating subjects—not just people. But the horses, the hounds. These beautiful country settings. The weather. It's all got a tremendous amount of energy and fun to it."

Before he could uncover Green Spring Valley's secrets, his path wound from Green Spring to Seoul, South Korea, and another valley in the West before he finally came home to eventually find the world of equine art.

Now, 15 years later, he is again thinking about change and what may lie ahead.

Ladew and what it means

On this morning Robinson is at Ladew Topiary Gardens in Harford County, Md., inspiring a small group of artists as Ladew's artist-in-residence. But teaching was the furthest thing from his mind earlier in his journey.

When his father offered him the opportunity to go to graduate school after earning his art degree, he declined.

"I knew that teaching wasn't for me as a career," Robinson, who will be 69 in September, says now. "I knew I wanted to paint, to create."

But time passes. Things happen. Covid comes along and the world changes. To fill his time on some of the empty afternoons in the early part of the pandemic, he started to cobble together a few private outdoor painting classes at his Burnside Farm studio.

Students learned and he enjoyed it.

He's the official artist of the National Steeplechase Association, providing the cover and chapter paintings for the NSA's annual record book. He has access to most any track or course he wants to visit and people love to cluster around to watch him work when he's on-site. His paintings sell. His studio is a big success.

But now, Ladew Gardens has opened another door, as Robinson wrestles with the feeling there is more for him to do.

"Should I pass along some of these skills I have?" he wonders about teaching. "I've yet to conclude that. But I'm starting to think about ways to expand my role in the world of racing. I've got something to say now about sporting art and how it ought to be painted, and I don't think it would be a bad idea to promote these ideas to other capable artists—particularly young ones, who might like to take this subject seriously."

With the exception of the American Academy of Equine Art, of which he is a member, Robinson says he doesn't see anyone else really doing that. "I think it might be a worthy thing to do, so I'm giving that some consideration."

And he also realized he wants to expand what he does within equine art. He is looking to broaden his impact.

Confident now, he is able to look at a broader spectrum.

"I'm starting to look for what I would call the more universal subjects," he says. "I'm looking for what constitutes the scene. What the visual richness is. I know I'm not going to put a foot wrong in terms of making a visual misstatement about the sport. But now I can afford to look for what is compelling and beautiful in it."

– Sam's Notes –

Getting Organized is a view from the Shawan Downs tower that takes in a wide perspective up the valley toward the John Brown store. The hills are dark in cloud shadow, just a hint of color on the early blooms of the maple trees. A very cold day, typical of the early Green Spring Valley point-to-points. The start is just getting organized. A small sketchy gouache, my favorite way to paint this sort of scene.

He has a painting in a national juried show. It's of two women riding side-saddle, wearing top hats and beautiful riding habits.

"It's just very elegant," says the artist. "It has kind of a beautiful lighting effect. The brushwork is very boldly applied. Those are ideas I'm exploring more of. And they have a broader appeal beyond the inner circle of the equine community. Those folks are certainly going to find the subject interesting, but people who know nothing about horse sports would find that very appealing as well."

Robinson pauses. He remembers thinking all those thoughts when he got the call from Ladew.

He did some research and realized he and Harvey Ladew, who built and designed the historic house on the property and personally designed and planted the original garden, are kindred spirits.

"I mean, everything that Harvey Ladew did at home is of interest to me," Robinson says. "That's the same kind of milieu. If you look through his house, there's special finishes on the walls. Murals painted

in other rooms. My wife is a professional garden designer, and we have extensive gardens here at Burnside that she keeps.

"The whole place just makes sense to me, and Harvey came to Maryland from New York in search of better fox hunting."

Robinson accepted Ladew's offer to be one of its artists-in-residence for the year. He couldn't resist. He realized the appointment fit right into expanding his craft.

Retracing the journey

The son of missionary parents, whose heritage was in Maryland's Green Spring Valley, Robinson's painting life began in South Korea.

Today he can open a drawer in his studio and pull out a rolled-up piece of paper that reveals a beautiful ink drawing of chrysanthemums.

He drew it at age 8.

"Very early on I sort of formed the notion that I was an artist," he says, a smile in his voice.

He loved to draw and his parents and grandmother encouraged him.

– Sam's Notes –

The Jockey Tent shows the Covid era paddock of the Legacy Chase, a temporary enclosure under the old sycamore tree near the barns. Horses circle in the light creating a nice silhouette against the white of the tent.

– Sam's Notes –

Record Crowd is a classic scene I am sure I will paint many times. The Manor paddock is located where the race finishes in front of the crowd. This flat perspective gives me a wonderful wide point of view punctuated by the tower and whatever action the paddock has to offer. I get a great view of every potential winner, and the outriders add a lot of style!

"My grandmother studied sculpture and she was quite good, when she was in her 20s and 30s. She encouraged me and took me to museums. There was constant reinforcement when I did things. After awhile, it just seemed natural."

And it was natural. As a child there was a natural, innate aptitude for scale. While others looked at the landscapes before them and saw skies and trees, he was fascinated by the gaps between the leaves that let light through.

"They had shapes, negative shapes," he recalls now. "I remember as a kid noticing my natural interest in shapes and sizes of things and how those compared. There were these, what we call, sky holes. If you're painting a dark green tree, there are little intervals where the sky peeks through and makes little blue shapes. I remember as a very young child being fascinated with those because they look like a specific shape … Figuring out those things was intriguing to me."

There were other things, too.

"I like naturalism," he says. "I like the way nature looks. I respond to visual appearances. That's what my artistic process is now."

He also embraced the brushstroke technique of South Korean artists.

"I would say the brush skills are the foundation of everything I do," he says. "I've always been interested in that particular style of painting. The ink goes onto the paper in one stroke. It's instantly on there. You can't correct it or move it around. So you have to be super thoughtful about how you hold the brush and position it and I'm very keen to see what that brush mark will do and I want the brush mark to be very visible to the viewer. I'm not trying to hide that."

This carries forward to his love of gouache as a medium. Gouache requires a painter to work quickly because the paint dries quickly. Gouache mimics oil painting although it is watercolor. The scenes that appear on the canvas come to life in

– Sam's Notes –

Summer Racing is a favorite point of view at the Big T, Timonium. The curve of the track sets up a long view of the distant fair, as the runners are ponied to the start. It was a nice cool day with perfect clouds. Usually I fry like an egg on the hot asphalt! Always a fun crowd at Timonium, and fans enjoy watching me work.

– Sam's Notes –

Cloudy Start is my first experiment working from video. Jim Graham shot some of the action at Willowdale just as the runners jump to it. A day of variable weather, there was a brief moment of brilliant light and dramatic skies.

an impressionist technique of lively brush work.

The road west and back again

When he came back to Maryland after graduating from Seoul Foreign School, he went to the Maryland Institute of Art for a semester, while keeping in touch with Barbara, the young woman he had met his senior year at SFS and who then was going to college in Ohio.

"I moved out there," he recalls, his blue eyes and voice softening. "That's where she was. That's where I wanted to be. I got a job as a carpenter and did house construction for a while.

"The following summer, we had this hare-brained scheme to travel the country and go to Oregon … We met some people in Oregon and moved onto their farm, where my construction skills were very useful, and we helped them build their barns and ended up building a little cabin. We got a milk cow.

"We were basically hippies," he says with a laugh, admitting he had long hair and played guitar and Barbara had "long, beautiful blond hair" held by a headband.

"It was a cluster of hippies from here, there and everywhere who'd settled in this little valley," Robinson says. "We were having a great time. But then I finally realized, 'This is really not what I want to continue doing. I need to go finish art school.'"

They came back to Baltimore and he expected they would move into one of the cottages his grandmother was renting out at his family's Burnside Farm.

"But my grandmother said, 'No. You can't cohabit here. You'll have to get married,'" Robinson recalls. "But it wasn't cool to get married when you were hippies, you know. You didn't think you needed to do that."

For about a year they rented an apartment on Park Heights Avenue, while he went to art school and she worked various jobs as he worked toward graduation.

"Then we thought, 'This is crazy. We definitely need to live at Burnside.' There was this charming little cottage. It was just perfect. All we had to do was get married. 'Why not? Let's do it!' It was 1976 we decided getting married was probably a good idea after all."

It was a sweet little wedding in the apple orchard near his grandmother's beautiful old mansion, that his great-great-grandfather built in 1860.

Today, as they prepare to celebrate their 46th wedding anniversary, they still live in that charming cottage, though it is bigger now, having seen several additions. But the feelings are the same.

"When I look at the full scope of what I've done, I think my accomplishment in art is very high," Robinson says. "I still feel like I have room to climb, but I think it's much more important that I've had a successful marriage all these years. I've got two wonderful kids and they've turned into fine people. Those are the things that are much more important to me."

Life went fast after he and Barbara were married. He graduated from the Maryland Institute in 1978. Barbara completed her costume design degree at Towson University and went to work at Center Stage. Robinson began figuring out how he was going to get serious and support a family.

Ten years later, their son arrived and five years after a daughter. By then he had built Valley Craftsmen, a decorative finish contracting firm, into a major success. He used his artistic talent to paint/design high-end interiors for homes and churches that included gold-leaf moldings and wall murals.

TOD MARKS

Sam Robinson has become a familiar figure at both the steeplechase races and flat tracks in the region.

"My studio fine-art work never stopped," he says. "But it was difficult to envision a way to have that actually make a decent living, with the way the art world was then. Everyone was interested in abstract painting and that never really interested me."

And then Mahoney arrived and everything changed.

The Green Spring Valley effect

Robinson's studio art work took off after he went to that first fox hunt and horses and various forms of racing came into his life.

At first he worked from photographs, then "I got my courage up and decided to go out and start painting on location."

It's a way of painting the scene that is unique to Robinson. If you see a painter with an easel at an equine event, it is sure to be him.

"Peter Williams, who has passed on, did this," Robinson says of the New Zealander known throughout the Thoroughbred world for his work often painted from the race course itself. "He was the only contemporary sporting painter who worked from life on location almost entirely, and I'm sort of a hybrid. I love doing that, but to me, it supplements the rest of it."

When on location, Robinson works on smaller scale scenes painted quickly in gouache, and most of those small sketches sell. "People love these," he adds.

He does many paintings entirely from life and they are never touched again. But if someone wants a portrait of their winning racehorse, he will take photographs and capture the detail at a slower pace in his studio.

"But I've worked hard to make sure that the difference between a painting that I did from life and a painting I did from photography shows almost no difference," he says.

But differences are coming.

Robinson points out that if you look at his website, it says, "Horses, Hounds and Country Life."

"The horses and hounds are kind of obvious," he says. "It's basically a way of saying racing and fox hunting. But the country life is a broader idea that contains a lot of things, and within that … it has what inspires me."

That would be nature, the outdoors and the diverse courses.

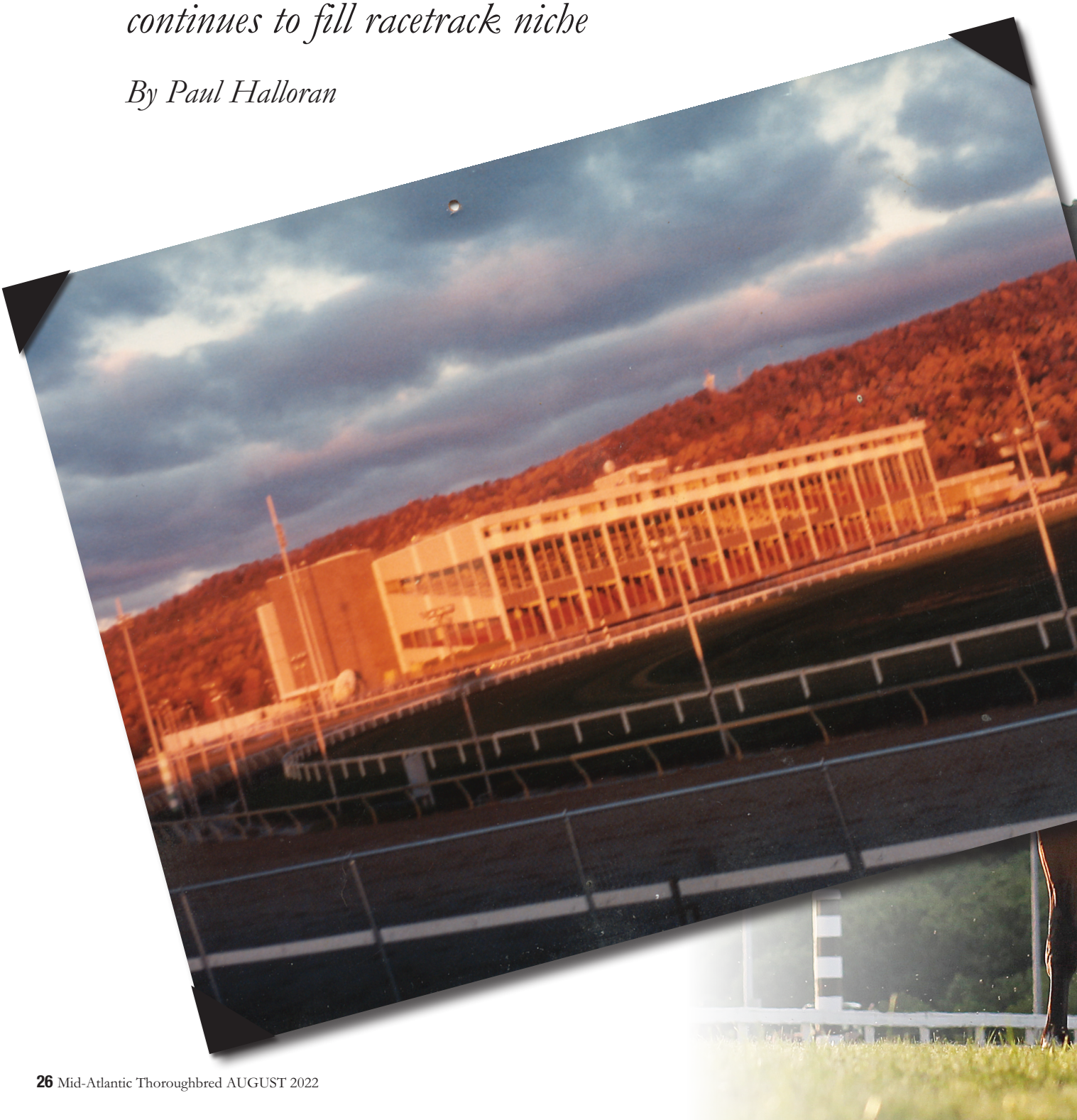
"They are so endlessly interesting," he says. "I think it's going to be more about the places, landscapes, gardens and people doing things within that, within the container of horses."

And you can hear the excitement and enthusiasm in his voice, as if just yesterday he discovered Green Spring Valley and its secrets in his own backyard. ◆

Still in the race

Fifty years on, Penn National continues to fill racetrack niche

By Paul Halloran



You could probably come up with 50 reasons why Penn National would not be around to mark its golden anniversary, but this month the track will indeed celebrate a half-century of Thoroughbred racing in Grantville, Pa.

"The track has shown a lot of scrappiness to survive," said Chris McErlean, vice president of racing. "We have no delusions. We're not Saratoga. We're not Keeneland. But Penn National has a place in racing."

The physical space in which the track–formally known as Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course–operates is 15 miles northeast of the state capital Harrisburg. The Blue Mountains, part of the Appalachians, provide a picturesque backdrop.

"Santa Anita without the smog," said racing director Eric Johnston.

In the world of Thoroughbred racing, Penn National may play in the minor leagues, but is known for big-league ideas and an impressive cast of stars–equine and human–who have passed through over the last 50 years.

Johnston was an 8-year-old in the crowd of 10,686 when Penn National opened its

EQUI-PHOTO, INC

French for "The Big Day," Le Grand Jour won the first race in Penn National's now 50-year history.

doors on Aug. 30, 1972. He recalled there was a buzz about horse racing coming to the region.

"I remember my parents talking about it at the dinner table," said Johnston, in his second stint at the track. "People were excited."

Le Grand Jour–appropriately, French for The Big Day–owned and trained by Paul Mills and ridden by Doug Thomas, won the first race, covering 6 furlongs in 1:13 and paying $9.80. Later in the card, jockey Arnie Iliescu recorded the first of his more than 2,800 wins at Penn National. By all accounts, a good time was had by all and there was reason for optimism.

It didn't take long for reality to set in.

The projected daily handle for the inaugural season was $600,000, but bettors averaged only $336,767–with the track's cut barely enough to cover expenses. Average attendance was 4,560, about 30 percent less than projections, and individual race purses were as low as $1,600.

"It was a struggle," said Fred Lipkin, who came to Penn National from Monticello Raceway in 1973 as director of marketing and publicity and worked in a variety of roles, including track announcer, over the next 45 years.

The $14 million facility was built by the Penn National Turf Club, a consortium of people from the Harrisburg area led by local attorney John J. Shumaker. Financing delays stalled construction for two years, but the track opened after a mad dash–and some delicate winter concrete pouring–in 1972. Hired in 1969 after 23 years at Pimlico, Barclay Odell saw the track through its construction to opening night.

At the outset, the Penn National Turf Club ran 100 dates and the Mountainview Thoroughbred Racing Association, formed by Peter D. Carlino in 1971, ran 100 as a tenant.

That arrangement lasted for 10 years until Mountainview, which included Carlino's son, Peter M. Carlino, bought the property in 1982 and shortly thereafter bought out Penn National Turf Club, taking sole ownership of the track and both racing licenses. Peter M. Carlino became chairman of the Mountainview board in 1974, a position he still holds.

"In those days the name of the game was cash flow," he said. "We all ran too many dates. The sport was always intended to be seasonal."

A 7-furlong turf course was added in 1978, but, unlike the mile dirt oval, not illuminated, limiting grass races to daylight hours on cards that typically start at 6 p.m. That explains why the track's marquee race–the Grade 2 Penn Mile–is typically run in the middle of the program.

The turf proved to be fast from the outset, as Aborigine (1 mile and 70 yards, 1978) and Told (1 1/16 miles, 1980) set world records. The legendary John Henry made two appearances–albeit before he became THE John Henry–winning the Chocolatetown Handicap in 1978 and running fourth in the off-the-turf Capital City Handicap in 1979.

One constant in the history of Penn National has been night racing, providing the opportunity for horsemen and jockeys to effectively race on two circuits simultaneously–Maryland, Delaware, Philadelphia or New Jersey by day and Penn National by night. You can count that among the reasons the track will soon be starting its second half-century.

"When people want you [to ride], you better be there, because there's going to be a day they don't," said Iliescu, the all-time Penn National win leader who won five riding titles from 1973-78. "We don't have million-dollar contracts. If you don't show up they're going to get somebody else."

Not everyone loves the prospect of breezing a horse at 7 a.m. and saddling one in the nightcap at 11 p.m., but you will hear no complaints from Bruce Kravets, the all-time leading trainer with at least 3,500 of his more than 3,700 career wins at Penn National.

"It takes some getting used to, but I love it," said Kravets, who made the move from Agua Caliente in Mexico in 1979 and never left. "You train in the morning, have all afternoon to rest, then you go back to the races."

BILL MOONEY

Penn National Race Course
1980 Press Guide
PENN NATIONAL RACE COURSE
1978 PRESS GUIDE
Our Idea Of Being On The Right Track
Penn National Media Guide 1996

Early leader Peter D. Carlino helped make Penn National a reality – and a success – along with some early media guides.

Penn National by the Numbers

8/30/72 – Track opens in Grantville, Pa.
10,686 – Opening night attendance

3/14/76 – First million-dollar handle: $1,004,243

1976 – First World Series of Handicapping held

1978 – 7-furlong turf course opens

8/12/83 – Telebet phone wagering begins.

5/16/92 – First OTB opens in Reading, Pa.

5/24/94 – Stock offering nets $16 million for **40 percent** of company and Penn National Gaming is formed

1997 – Computerized photo finish and race-timing system – to hundredths of a second – installed

1999 – eBet, one of the first ADWs, is launched

2/12/08 – Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course opens

4 – Stakes races won at Penn National by Ben's Cat

$4,024,337 – Record handle, set on the Penn Mile card on 6/3/22

August Celebration

Penn National Race Course will mark its 50th anniversary with various events throughout August. The main racing celebration will take place Friday, Aug. 19, with four stakes races, 50-cent hot dogs and five drawings for $1,000 cash vouchers. The remainder of the weekend (Aug. 20-21) will include celebrations in the casino with various giveaways and promotions.

Kravets ships to other tracks in the Mid-Atlantic, but "90 percent of everything I run is here," he said. "Penn National has been the greatest thing that ever happened to me. I have zero complaints."

While Kravets has more wins than any trainer at Penn National, Tim Kreiser has won the last eight training titles. Mario Beneito won 2,318 races and 15 titles, while Harry F. Thompson Jr. had 2,187 wins and led the trainer standings eight times.

It is not only conceivable, but pretty much undisputed that, after opening night, the next-most significant event in the history of the track occurred on May 16, 1992 – 45 miles away. That was the day the first off-track wagering location in Pennsylvania opened, in Reading, owned and operated by Penn National. Peter D. Carlino had been successful in getting legislation passed allowing for OTBs, with a stipulation that the facilities offer fine dining and other amenities.

"Kind of un-New York," said Peter M. Carlino, referring to some of the bare-bones OTBs that had been operating in

the Big Apple for 20 years by that point. The Carlinos built a second facility in Chambersburg in 1994 and one in York in 1995. The return on investment was impressive.

"In Reading, we made a $4.2 million investment and cash flow the first year was more than $4.5 million," Carlino said. "In Chambersburg, it was a $2.2 million investment and we had $2.5 million cash flow the first year. The beauty of off-track betting was that it brought racing to where the customers were."

The OTB ventures proved to be a catalyst for future growth. In 1994, Peter M. Carlino took the company public, selling 40 percent in a stock offering that netted $16 million, as Penn National Gaming was formed in what turned out to be the precursor to the gaming conglomerate that exists today.

In 1999, the company launched eBet, one of the first advanced-deposit wagering sites, which was rebranded to eBetUSA in 2012 and now operates as Hollywood Races, available in 24 states.

Almost from the beginning, Penn National management showed it was willing to try new ideas in the interest of garnering additional revenue. "Aggressive out of necessity," McErlean called it.

In 1976—the year of the first million-dollar handle, on March 14—Penn National started the World Series of Handicapping, a three-day event with win-place-show wagering only and the first large-scale event to attract players from all over the country, according to Lipkin.

"We had hand-written entries and scoreboards," Lipkin said, "but we had some big names playing." Speed-figure guru Andrew Beyer led into the final race of the 1982 contest, but finished third.

In 1983, Penn National instituted Telebet, giving players who funded an account at the track the ability to call in wagers. With people now playing from home, it created a demand to show a recap of the races on TV and thus the program *Racing Alive* was born.

Penn National was also the first track to put its signal up on a satellite and the first to send it to the Las Vegas racebooks, Carlino said.

The track also hosted concerts and showed boxing matches on closed-circuit TV. About 17,000 came to watch the broadcast of the Larry Holmes-Gerry Cooney heavyweight championship fight from Las Vegas on June 11, 1982. The Marvelous Marvin Hagler-Tommy Hearns slugfest in 1985 was also a big hit. The property also included a half-mile dirt track for car racing, which opened in 1971 and lasted until 1996.

On the music side, headliners such as Tammy Wynette, Barbara Mandrell, Loretta Lynn and Ricky Nelson drew as many as 18,000 fans. The track built a portable stage that served its purpose until the barn in which it was stored caught fire.

Then there was the night Johnny Paycheck played Penn National, arriving early with a female friend in tow. According to someone who was there, the country star wanted some privacy for his "show prep" and he was given a key to an unused area immediately above the dining room.

Record-setting McCarron logged Penn National miles

After Chris McCarron, as a 19-year-old apprentice, shattered the record for wins in the spring meet at Pimlico with 113 in 1974, his agent, Eddie Kinlaw, started doing some math.

"He told me if we continue on the pace we were on, I had a chance to break Sandy's record," McCarron said, referring to the 513 winners Sandy Hawley rode in 1973 to set the record for most wins in a year.

That meant, quite literally, no days off for McCarron, who rode at Delaware Park, Monmouth Park (on Tuesdays, Delaware's dark day), Bowie and Laurel Park—by day. He would ride the card in Maryland on a Saturday afternoon, then drive two hours to Grantville, Pa., to ride at Penn National Saturday night and Sunday. That routine got old fast for the young McCarron.

"All the driving was really getting to me," McCarron recalled in July. "First, [Penn National racing secretary] Pete Kosiba got someone to drive me back and forth, then they arranged a private plane for me."

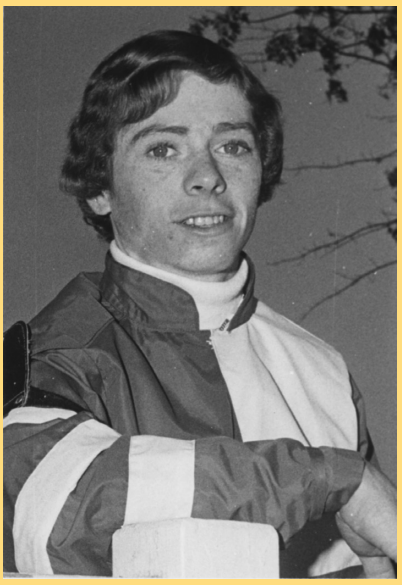
Naturally, that raised some eyebrows among the locals, who wondered why the track was catering to this wunderkind from Maryland.

"I have to laugh," McCarron said. "They were talking about me being flown in a private plane and picked up in a limo. It was a 2-seat, single-engine prop plane that landed on a dirt strip a few miles from the track. And the 'limo' was a Jeep CJ with plastic windows."

It is also safe to say that not everyone was thrilled with McCarron swooping in to pick up live mounts that could have gone to local riders.

"It was tough going," said McCarron, a Boston native who ended his Hall of Fame career with 7,141 wins, including six in Triple Crown races and nine in the Breeders' Cup. "They didn't make it easy for me. There was some rough riding and I had to earn it the hard way, but I got out unscathed."

McCarron kept that schedule the last four months of the year. He estimates he averaged about two wins a day, giving him 60-65 at Penn National—including two



DOUBLE J

six-win nights—on the way to a record 546 wins and the Eclipse Award as champion apprentice. Kent Desormeaux broke the record in 1989 with 597 wins, four at Penn National.

Looking back, McCarron has fond memories of his summer weekends in Pennsylvania.

"The management up there treated me very well," he said. "They welcomed me with open arms."

– Paul Halloran

New in 1996, Penn National's paddock continues to help fans get closer to the horses.

Apparently, there was a little too much rhythm and the floor/ceiling partially gave way, providing diners with a view of Johnny they neither expected nor desired.

After the IPO, Penn National Gaming embarked on a pattern of expansion. It bought the Pocono Downs harness track, which included several OTB outlets, in 1996. The following year, the company bought West Virginia's Charles Town Race Course, after a referendum authorizing slot machines at the track passed on the second attempt. The company acquired the Hollywood Casino franchise in 2003 and owned 49 percent of the Maryland Jockey Club in 2010-11. Today, Penn National Gaming owns 44 casino and racing properties from Maine to California, including 11 racetracks.

Back on the home front, when it was time to add a full-blown casino to the racing operation, Penn National learned from the mistakes of other tracks, which had introduced slots and table games piecemeal, often to the detriment of the racing product. At Penn, they leveled the building and constructed a $260 million facility intended to seamlessly integrate the racing and gaming operations.

"We were not trying to isolate racing as the poor stepchild," Carlino said. "We made it convenient for customers to go back and forth. We have always taken racing seriously. The racing business has been my life for the last 50 years."

The racing product was enhanced by the revenue derived by expanded gaming. In 2007, average daily purses totaled $69,000. In 2008, the year the new facility opened, the average was $110,000. The horsemen also benefited, with the track investing $10 million into backstretch improvements.

John Henry was not the only big-name horse to ship into Penn National or start there on the way to bigger and better things. The ageless Ben's Cat won the Governor's Cup in 2011 and the Fabulous Strike Handicap three times (2012-14). That race's namesake–based at the track with trainer Todd Beattie–broke his maiden at Penn National in 2006 on the way to winning five graded stakes and earning $1,447,804.

In 2008, McErlean was quoted as saying that within five years there would be a starter in a Triple Crown race coming out of Penn National. Princess of Sylmar broke her maiden there by 19 lengths in 2012 and won the Kentucky Oaks-G1 in 2013. Close enough.

Pennsylvania-bred Just One Time counts three wins at Penn National among her six career triumphs, including the Grade 1 Madison Stakes at Keeneland in April.

The Penn Mile, brainchild of then-racing director Dan Silver, was run for the first time in 2013 and received Grade 3 status in 2016. The now Grade 2 stakes for 3-year-olds on the turf was slotted in the weekend before the Belmont Stakes-G1 and it has been an unqualified success, with the top six daily handles in

Since 1997, the World Series of Handicapping, and a serious bunch of horseplayers, has set up at Penn National.

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Arnie Iliescu, who rode on opening night, holds the record for most wins at Penn National.

ROBERT WEBER

Arriving in 1973 as publicity director, Fred Lipkin retired in December 2018 after wearing many hats at Penn National.

EQUI-PHOTO, INC.

Bruce Kravats, the all-time leading trainer at Penn National, moved to the Grantville, Pa., track in 1979.

the track's history coming on that card, including this year's all-time record of $4,024,337. Winning Penn Mile trainers have included Chad Brown, Mark Casse, Christophe Clement and Mike Stidham.

Bobby's Kitten won the Penn Mile in a 2014 campaign that saw him capture the Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint-G1. Force the Pass (2015) and Catch a Glimpse (2016) parlayed Penn Mile wins into Grade 1 scores in the Belmont Derby and Belmont Oaks, respectively. Da Hoss won the 1996 Governor's Cup on the way to a successful Breeders' Cup Mile-G1 run, one that he duplicated in 1998 in his second start off a two-year layoff.

With great horses come great jockeys, and over the years Penn National has welcomed the likes of Angel Cordero Jr., Steve Cauthen, Chris McCarron, Jorge Velasquez, Jacinto Vasquez, Kent Desormeaux, Irad Ortiz Jr., John Velazquez, Joel Rosario, Flavien Prat, Luis Saez and Javier Castellano.

But if you're looking for the real "stories" you go to the locals and who better than the all-time win leader.

"I remember one night we were only an eighth of a mile out of the gate and the lights went out," said Iliescu, who started riding in 1967, was the leading rider at Bowie in 1969 and honed his craft at Suffolk Downs in 1969 and 1970. "All the horses propped and I was the only one left still on my horse. No one got hurt, but the trainer yelled at me for not finishing the race. It was a no contest."

Then there was the day Iliescu was named to ride for legendary trainer King Leatherbury in the afternoon at Laurel Park and at night at Penn National–on the same horse.

"I told my agent, they must be going to scratch at night," said Iliescu, who rode at Penn National for 26 years and worked as a jockey agent for 24. "But he told me King had been getting into trouble for entering and scratching too often and he was going to run the horse. We finished the race at Laurel and the van was waiting to take the horse to Penn National. We finished third in both races."

Penn National Gaming is one of the largest gaming companies in the country. Carlino stepped away from the racing operation in 2013 to assume control of the newly formed Gaming and Leisure Properties, a publicly traded real-estate investment trust that owns practically all of the real estate on which Penn National properties operate.

Penn National Gaming bought 36 percent of the Barstool Sports franchise in 2020 in a deal that allows it to eventually acquire full ownership. Barstool has a younger demographic and an online sportsbook that is available in a dozen states. The hope is that those sports bettors will spread their gambling dollars to the casinos and perhaps the racetracks.

"Penn National is, was and has to be the most innovative company in the gaming and racing industry," Carlino said. "You've got to keep running because there's always somebody behind you," Carlino said. "Barstool is the latest step in building the brand."

It is a brand that was born 50 years ago and continues to evolve.

"In 1972, who could have imagined an almost $30 billion combined company [Penn National Gaming and Gaming and Leisure Properties]," said Carlino. "And it all started with a little racetrack in Harrisburg."

A little racetrack that could. And still can. ◆

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Beach Season

Upset-minded Wow Whata Summer wins graded stakes for Brooks, Lawrence

BY JOE CLANCY. PHOTOGRAPHS BY MAGGIE KIMMITT

In a May 1985 profile in *Maryland Horse* magazine, owner/breeder Dick Brooks explained the name of his Charisma Stable. Charisma, he said, "embodied the excitement which racing generates."

Thirty-seven years later, Charisma Stable no longer exists but the excitement keeps getting generated–in the form of Brooks' son Jeremy and new graded stakes winner Wow Whata Summer. The 3-year-old gelding upset the $400,000 Penn Mile-G2 at Penn National June 3.

The Kentucky-bred son of Summer Front dispatched heavy favorite Annapolis by taking the lead on the backside and kicking away on the turn to finish in 1:42.39 over a soft turf course. Tyler Conner rode the winner, who scored by 1¼ lengths over Annapolis with Uncaptured Spirit third. Wow Whata Summer paid $168.60 and touched off separate celebrations among the connections.

At Penn, Jeremy Brooks hoisted trainer Chuck Lawrence's assistant John Milliron into the air like a catcher greeting a pitcher after a no-hitter.

"I was standing right next to him and he was over the moon," said Milliron. "He grabbed me, picked me up just about the time the horse was crossing the finish line. It was the biggest race he'd ever won. We've all been there, but next time I'm standing a little bit farther away."

At Valbella restaurant in Greenwich, Conn., Lawrence–who ran a horse at Belmont Park that day and went to dinner with client Matt Schera–the bar crowd found something to cheer for besides the Yankees, the Mets or maybe the Red Sox.

"Matt got them to put the race on the TV, the whole bar was watching and half of them bet," said Lawrence. "The place went crazy when he won."

And, like many things in racing, it almost didn't happen.

Nearly sold by Brooks as a yearling in 2020, Wow Whata Summer was supposed to run in the $100,000 James W. Murphy Stakes at Pimlico May 21, but was scratched after getting sick when a bug went through Lawrence's barn.

The victory was also the first time the dark bay actually crossed the finish line first. He won his debut at Colonial Downs last summer after getting moved up from second because of a bump on the turn. He followed that race with a third in the Hickory Tree Stakes at Colonial, fourths in

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New graded stakes winner Wow Whata Summer breezes at Fair Hill Training Center.

the Kitten's Joy and Laurel Futurity, and a ninth on the dirt at Laurel Park to finish his 2-year-old season in November. Gelded and pointed for the 2022 turf season, Wow Whata Summer returned to finish third behind Uncaptured Spirit in a Laurel turf allowance in April.

Wow Whata Summer missed the Murphy with a cough and a fever, but bounced back quickly and had options for turf starts. Brooks and Lawrence talked it over and landed on the Penn Mile thanks to the rich purse, the simple ship from Fair Hill Training Center, Conner's availability and a strong opinion of their horse.

"The Penn Mile is right there in our backyard, Tyler really got along with him in the allowance race, and that's how we ended up there," said the trainer. "Did we think we would win it? I'm not going to tell you we thought we would win it. I will tell you I thought we'd run well. The horse is really nice in the morning, and he's come around."

Brooks echoed the sentiments, even though the odds board didn't show it.

"First off, we all thought we had a really good chance," he said. "We thought he was training excellently and since he's come back for his 3-year-old year he's shown additional focus and Chuck has done a really good job getting him ready. The other bettors didn't agree with our thoughts, obviously, but we thought we had a chance. We made a great game plan and Tyler put together an amazing race. It was like a dream come true. You kind of felt like it was meant to be. I was on cloud nine for the full week. It was awesome."

A month later, Wow Whata Summer ran fifth of seven in Delaware Park's Kent Stakes-G3 but the loss did little to take away the thrill of the Penn Mile victory.

Brooks credits his father and mother, Pat, for connecting him to racing, but the interest goes back another generation or two. Dick Brooks' uncle David Brooks and his wife Kit bought their first Thoroughbred at Saratoga in 1963. Miss Ceramic won at Laurel 10 days later and kicked off a long interest in racing. From their Hillstead Farm in Lutherville, Md., the Brookses owned and bred winners and even bought into the stallion syndicate of Triple Crown winner Secretariat. Before all that, David Brooks' father Dan Brooks owned some horses in the 1930s but never won a race.

Dick Brooks worked in the family business, Brooks Buick in Towson, but launched Charisma Stable in 1982 and quickly turned it into a multi-pronged partnership with racehorses, mares, the 100-acre Three Cousins Farm, action at the sales and a slew of clients. Charisma bought a two-page spread in the January 1986 *Maryland Horse* to highlight various accomplishments including stakes winner Native Derby, graded stakes winner Cosmic Tiger and stallion Clever Champ.

Trainer Chuck Lawrence horses around with Wow Whata Summer at the barn.

Dick Brooks ultimately closed Charisma, got out of racing, retired and moved to North Carolina—but not before passing the interest to his son.

"My first memory in the business was going to Pimlico and the Preakness growing up as a kid," said Jeremy, a Wisconsin resident who works for Discover Financial Services. "As I started to get further along in my career and had some capital I could use, I wanted to get a fun hobby. I started to look at getting a couple broodmares and here I am. My dad wasn't really in racing anymore, but he always researched pedigrees and would have an interest in a horse sometimes."

Jeremy Brooks' first broodmare purchase, the Malibu Moon mare Loan Guarantee, raced once for Klaravich Stables after being purchased for $130,000 as a yearling, but moved to the Mid-Atlantic circuit and claiming ranks. She won for a $13,000 tag at Parx Racing in 2015, got claimed for $7,500 later that year, finished second for $6,000 at Delaware Park and made her only start for Brooks when 11th in a Mahoning Valley allowance in January 2016. Her first foal, a filly by Warrior's Reward, died as a yearling. Her second foal, the Fed Biz filly Loan Biz, lost all five starts last year but is joining the small broodmare band along with a Twirling Candy mare Twirling Annie (bred in partnership by Dick Brooks, who bought her dam Song for Annie).

Loan Guarantee has a 2-year-old Pennsylvania-bred Mshawish filly named Cherished Wish with Lawrence and a yearling colt by Desert Party going through his early paces with Erin Brogan in Virginia. Loan Guarantee didn't have a foal in 2022, but was bred to Yoshida (Jpn) for 2023. Her second named foal, Wow Whata Summer, changed everything.

"I bred to Summer Front because I wanted a horse who could run on turf or dirt," said Brooks, 45. "Summer Front gave me an awesome opportunity for both, and he showed a lot of stability because he ran for five years. I like that and when we saw Wow in training very quickly Chuck said he was checking off all the marks of a good horse."

Dick Brooks knew the mare, knew the horse, helped choose Lawrence as a trainer and was a regular part of the team before passing away in November 2021 at 72. Lawrence smiles at the early stages of the relationship.

"He called me up out of the blue really," said the trainer. "He was a talker, with pedigrees and throwing this at you and that at you. He was very enthusiastic and said he wanted to send me some horses. I just said, 'Yes sir, let's see what happens.'"

They talked pretty much every day. Jeremy Brooks is somewhat less hands-on, but continues to work the plan of raising homebreds from a small group of mares in Kentucky (with Bryan Minnich) and Pennsylvania (Cristina Holmes at Bonner Hill Farms). He gets the foals Virginia-certified and started with Brogan and moves them along to the races.

Of course, some of that requires a little extra effort from Wisconsin.

"I wasn't going to be able to make it to Preakness Day for the Murphy Stakes," Brooks said. "When we had to scratch him, I said I would make it to Penn National. I drove out, a 13-hour drive. But it was worth it. I broke it up over two days and it was perfect."

Brooks credited his trainer, and his father's input on choosing a trainer, with Wow Whata Summer's development into a graded stakes winner–the first such win for the owner/breeder, the third for the jockey and the fifth (on the flat) for the trainer.

"I was looking for a trainer that not only had the ability to travel–with Virginia-certified you want to look at your options – but I wanted to find a really good horseman," Brooks said. "We'd seen some of Chuck's results and my dad saw an article about the Fair Hill Training Center and it all kind of fit perfectly. You have a great horseman who was a steeplechase jockey and he was at Fair Hill and you can quickly see he loves the horses. He's so knowledgeable and passionate about what he does. Fair Hill is a beautiful setup to where you can travel the whole East Coast and make decisions about where to run, which has to help your horses."

Dick Brooks saw Wow Whata Summer race last year and would have loved every second of the Penn Mile victory.

"He would have been happy because, first off, it proved what we were thinking with the mare and the turf was right, and he would have been really proud of me," said Jeremy Brooks. "Being able to have a colt raised from a foal upward win a race like that was big. I was going to sell Wow Whata Summer as a yearling just because of Covid and things not looking so good at the time, but he didn't meet the reserve. I was not upset about it at the time, but I would have sold him. Now it proves that we were right in our thinking."

And that embodies the excitement which racing generates.

News and Notes

Penn Mile night included five other stakes, as part of a 11-race card. Owner/breeder Tom Coulter's **Maldives Model** (Conner) won the $100,000 Lyphard for Pennsylvania-bred fillies/mares on the turf. Trained by Erin McClellan, the 4-year-old Petionville filly ousted favorite Love in the Air while winning for the third time and becoming a stakes winner in her 13th start. Maldives Model is one of six winners produced by the El Prado (Ire) mare Tahitian Pearl. . . Coulter and Conner also won the $100,000 Danzig for Pennsylvania-bred 3-year-olds with homebred **Nimitz Class**, a Munnings colt trained by Bruce Kravets. Nimitz Class won for the fourth time this year after losing his only start of 2021. The winner is a full-brother to multiple stakes winner Kaylasaurus. . . New York shipper **Buy Land and See** lived up to 2-5 favoritism with a lopsided win in the $100,000 With Anticipation for Pennsylvania-breds on the turf. The 5-year-old son of Cairo Prince, owned and bred by Joe Imbesi, scored by 6¾ lengths for trainer Tony Dutrow and jockey Flavien Prat. Buy Land and See won for the fourth time, and first since July 2020, after three consecutive seconds in allowance company. . . Odds-on **Haughty** (Prat) won the $150,000 Penn Oaks for trainer Chad Brown and owners Bradley Thoroughbreds, Belmar Racing, Cambron Equine and Team Hanley . . . Owner/breeder Joe Besecker's **Bazinga C** won the $100,000 New Start for Pennsylvania-bred 3-year-old fillies, getting 6 furlongs in 1:09.18 for trainer Tim Kreiser. She won for the fourth time this year, riding three allowance wins into the stakes try. Besecker co-bred the daughter of Exaggerator with the Exaggerator Syndicate, sold her for $37,000 as a weanling in 2019 and bought her back for $62,000 as a yearling in 2020. The New Start pushed her earnings to $188,056. ◆

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Still Strong

Two June stakes winners come through for 28-year-old Maryland sire Outflanker

BY JOE CLANCY

Get this out of the way first. Outflanker is old. But he's not finished.

The Maryland stallion, 28 years young and active if not prolific, sired two stakes winners in June to add to a stud career which began in 1998. He won't make breeders forget Northern Dancer or force them to ignore hotshot newcomers just off the racetrack, but the son of Danzig is the broodmare sire of 2021 Horse of the Year Knicks Go and has a reputation for producing capable, durable runners.

"Years ago when he was breeding a lot of mares, there was a list of stallions that had durable foals–that lasted a long time–and he was in the upper echelon of that and he is that way too," said Jim Steele, who manages Outflanker's stud bookings–and life–at Shamrock Farm in Woodbine. "He's very classy, he goes out every day, he's in the barn every night. He's no bother to anybody. He's just a very classy old man."

With some success to brag about. Start with Knicks Go. The Maryland-bred, a son of Paynter and the Outflanker mare Kosmo's Buddy, won 10 of 25 starts, earned $9,258,135 and took down 2021 Eclipse Awards for Horse of the Year and champion older dirt male before entering stud at Taylor Made Farm in Kentucky. Kosmo's Buddy raced 37 times over four seasons, winning a pair of stakes, including the 2008 Maryland Million Turf Sprint Handicap against males, and earning $298,095.

The 2022 stars picked the same week to shine as 6-year-old Nick Papagiorgio won the $75,000 Find Stakes on the turf at Laurel Park June 19 and 3-year-old Mama G's Wish landed the $50,000 Lewes at Delaware Park June 22.

Start with the 6-year-old. Bred in Maryland by Cynthia Pence and Philip Spingler, Nick Papagiorgio sold for

CHRIS STEELE

Outflanker, sire of two recent stakes winners, heads to his paddock at Shamrock Farm.

JIM MCCUE

HOOFPRINTS, INC.

Nick Papagiorgio (left) won Laurel Park's Find Stakes June 19. Three days later, Mama G's Wish captured the Lewes at Delaware Park.

$10,000 as a yearling in 2017—joining Vina Del Mar Thoroughbreds and trainer Tim Keefe. The dark bay, from the Lear Fan mare Lady Lear, won twice for those connections before getting claimed in June 2019 and bouncing through the barns of Hugh McMahon, Jamie Ness, Tim Kreiser, Ness again, Richard Vega and the New York-based Mike LeCesse.

The stakes win came in Nick Papagiorgio's 35th start, and rewarded LeCesse's decision to send owner Louis Bisso Jr.'s gelding home from Florida this winter.

"I went to Tampa and ran him one time [in December] and he came back a little like he was tired," said the trainer, based for most of the year at Finger Lakes in western New York. "He wasn't right after that. I sent him back home and gave him the winter off up here. That really helped him. He had a whole winter off and got to be perfectly sound and healthy."

And came back running. Fifth at Presque Isle Downs May 30, Nick Papagiorgio met 10 others in the 1 1/16-mile Find for Maryland-bred or -sired runners. Sent off at nearly 14-1, he rallied five wide off the turn to prevail by a half-length over Somekindofmagician with B Determined third. Second to Somekindofmagician in last year's Find, Nick Papagiorgio collected his 10th win and pushed his lifetime earnings to $312,080.

As might be expected, LeCesse wasn't sure what to do with Nick Papagiorgio when he arrived in the barn last year. There's no turf course at Finger Lakes, and Maryland-bred races are at least 300 miles away. Since joining the barn in July 2021, Nick Papagiorgio has run at Presque Isle, Saratoga, Pimlico, Laurel and Tampa—while training mainly at Finger Lakes in Farmington and spending the winter at LeCesse's farm.

"I really liked this horse, but I didn't know exactly where to run him," said LeCesse. "He likes the poly [synthetic tracks], he's won more races on the dirt than anything else, but he's just developed into a horse who likes to run on softer going—poly or turf. It's very hectic finding spots for him. We found a spot at Colonial Downs, but that's a trip and a half for us."

Like his horse, LeCesse will take every mile.

"He's a very good horse, nice horse to work around, everything about him," said the trainer. "We're very fortunate to have him."

The June double gave Outflanker his first stakes wins since 2016, when Outwithbigdaddy captured the Tax Free Shopping Distaff at Delaware Park. And of course there's a connection. Gina Robb (then Rosenthal) co-bred Outwithbigdaddy with Robin Coblyn and is the breeder/owner of Mama G's Wish with her husband Jerry via their No Guts No Glory Farm.

"I've always had a soft spot in my heart for Outflanker," said Gina. "Why? It's very simple. The first filly I ever bred was Outwithbigdaddy, and she was by Outflanker. She was a stakes winner. You breed one horse, you bring them to the races and you win a stakes with them? How can you ask for more? I get goosebumps talking about it."

She might have to get used to them, as Mama G's Wish won for the fifth time in 2022 (and sixth overall).

"I had three fillies in her year [2019] and she was the most laid back and she's that way at the track too," said Gina. "She's always been kind of falling through the cracks or something, not really that, but everyone thought she was going to be the third string. That fell by the wayside. She's been the best."

Mama G's Wish, out of the Great Notion mare Gracie's Hero, lost her first nine starts in 2021—graduating the maiden ranks in November—but has been on a tear this year with three winter wins at Laurel and two more at Delaware through July 11. In the 6-furlong Lewes, she waited in third early before rallying to edge Cashing Big Checks by a half-length with the Robbs' Bandits Warrior third.

Outflanker gave the winner looks and grit, according to her breeder.

"She's a really magnificent looking horse," said Gina. "She's wide and sturdy, intelligent. She looks a lot like the one I bred back in the day and I'm sure it comes from the Outflanker side. He really throws out some decent looking horses. He really does. He's older now, but they can still run. I'm really excited about her and I hope I'm breeding horses out of her someday."

Bred in Kentucky by Will Farish and Bill Kilroy, Outflanker lost all 10 starts in Ireland and England and never raced in the U.S. but carried the rich pedigree lines into a stud career in Florida and Maryland. In addition to Shamrock, he stood at the Maryland Stallion Station and Bonita Farm since moving to the state in the fall of 2003.

His dam Lassie's Lady, a daughter of star broodmare Lassie Dear, was a half-sister to such luminaries as Weekend Surprise (the dam of A.P. Indy and Summer Squall), Charming Lassie (the dam of Lemon Drop Kid) and European champion Wolfhound.

Steele said Outflanker bred a handful of mares in 2022 and would continue to do so as long as he stayed healthy and breeders were interested.

"He still has libido and good sperm and he's getting mares pregnant," Steele said. "We love him. He's uncomplicated, he doesn't have problems. He's as durable as his foals." ◆

Right Time

Why Not Tonight delivers first stakes win for Wasabi ownership group, trainer Cruz

BY JOE CLANCY. PHOTO BY JIM MCCUE

The early days of Wasabi Ventures Stable centered on claiming horses. The plan sounded familiar—watch races, identify prospects, cross-reference with a trainer, talk it through and make a decision. Of course, Wasabi founder TK Kuegler goes a little bit beyond the familiar.

"I have a software system for tracking horses we might claim," said Kuegler, a tech-industry venture capitalist who launched his racing business in 2017. "There are almost 3,000 horses in it now. I built it. I use it for handicapping, too, because I'm a handicapper, but we use it to identify horses to claim. It has a plus and minus system. I can plus and minus as I watch a race."

And Why Not Tonight—Wasabi's first stakes winner after taking Laurel Park's All Brandy June 19—had plenty of pluses when claimed for $16,000 last September.

"I went back and looked her up and she had had two questionable trips in a row before we claimed her," Kuegler said. "It looked like she was a turf-only horse. It looked like she might run better. We thought it was a horse who could improve."

Bred in Maryland by Cynthia and Charlie McGinnes and purchased for $57,000 by Country Life Farm as a yearling, the now 4-year-old filly did the rest. Claimed out of a win for Country Life and trainer Mike Trombetta at Monmouth Park, she won her debut for Wasabi and trainer Jesse Cruz at Tampa Bay Downs in late November, opened 2022 with a seventh on the Tapeta surface at Gulfstream Park in January and—after a short freshen-

Why Not Tonight charges to victory in the All Brandy Stakes at Laurel Park in June.

ing–finished fourth on the turf at Pimlico in May before winning the All Brandy.

Restricted to Maryland-bred and -sired runners, the $75,000 stakes drew a full field of 12 headed by stakes winner Can the Queen and four-time winner No Mo Lady. Why Not Tonight stalked Can the Queen from second, went after the lead at the three-eighths pole and prevailed by a half-length with Coconut Cake a neck back in third after 1 1⁄16 miles in 1:41.30. The win gave trainer Jesse Cruz his first stakes win, a milestone that mattered to the 28-year-old West Virginia native.

"At the time it felt like, 'Finally,' " he said. "I haven't trained that long but I've been in the business a really long time. I've been around a lot of stakes horses as an exercise rider and assistant trainer. It just felt like something that was a long time coming."

Cruz learned about horses from his mother, Daisy Tobin, who spent nearly three decades working as a groom and assistant for Charles Town trainer James Casey before retiring in 2016. She still helps around the barn of her husband, trainer Lewis Craig Jr., Cruz's stepfather. By 16, Cruz was galloping at Charles Town–riding, among others, West Virginia stars Russell Road and Help a Brother and later Grade 1 winner Dance to Bristol for trainer Ollie Figgins III.

"I kind of fell in love with the game at Charles Town being around Help a Brother and Russell Road and horses like that," Cruz said. "But then Bristol kind of showed me the bigger picture like getting to Saratoga and winning graded stakes."

Cruz worked for trainers Cam Gambolati, Bill Mott, Mike Maker and Joe Sharp before becoming a trainer himself in 2017. He won with his first runner and by the next year sent out 101 starters while looking to be on his way–until everything changed. A major client moved his horses out of the barn, leaving Cruz with two Wasabi runners.

"I thought I had failed," he said. "I tell younger guys who talk to me about training horses that one of my biggest regrets was going out on my own a little too early. That was me being 23, young and cocky. I thought I knew how to take care of the horses. It was the rest of it. Managing and running a business was the big thing, not the horses. Horse racing is a game that will humble you very quickly."

Cruz figured he could get a job as an assistant somewhere and start over. He called Kuegler and offered to help him find another place for his horses. Kuegler, whose professional career involves plenty of failure to go with some big successes, laughed.

"It's kind of what he does for a living," Cruz said. "He said, 'Let's get these horses to Oaklawn Park [in Arkansas]. I'm coming out there.' He came to the barn every morning and helped me with the horses and more importantly helped me to manage the business which he still does today."

Cruz won six races in 2019, nine in 2020 and a career-best 20 in 2021. Roughly halfway through 2022, the victory total stood at 11, with four wins in his last 10 starts while based at Monmouth Park for the summer.

"He's not officially a personal trainer for us, but we're by far the largest part of his barn," said Kuegler. "He's a good, honest kid, he's working hard and it's nice to see that happen. When you can be part of somebody developing in the sport it's rewarding."

Wasabi started with shorter-term goals and looked to claim horses with relatively immediate upside. Now, the group includes 1,500 partners (40-50 on one horse), broodmares, stallion investments, young horses, sales forays and a stakes winner.

Claiming is still part of the equation, however.

"We concentrate on horses that are still young, we don't think have fully developed and we see an opportunity to improve it over a year or two," he said. "That's changed and it ties into our breeding side too. If I can claim a horse for $25,000 that's a 3-year-old, it's almost a cheaper way to breed a horse, especially if it's a filly. We're always looking at horses to claim that might be broodmare candidates."

Why Not Tonight, a daughter of Tapiture and the Not For Love mare Pay the Lady, will have to wait on that career–though she's an example of Wasabi's evolution.

"We started as a claiming operation, low-level claiming," Kuegler said. "We were claiming horses and see if we could make them work. We never lost that DNA. Now we have a rather large breeding operation, but we never lost that part of it. When you can claim a horse like that, and get that win over what has been a period of time it is very rewarding."

Why Not Tonight pushed her record to four wins from 11 starts while reaching $114,457 in earnings. At the time of the claim, Cruz thought he'd find a turf opportunity or two in the region but also had eyes on a winter campaign in Florida.

"She always seemed to show up on the grass and we were headed to Tampa so we thought we needed to get some turf horses for the winter," he said. "It was September, so we still had a little turf around here too. But things happened where we could not get her in a race, we entered a bunch of races around here and she didn't run until we got to Tampa. I claimed her in September and didn't run her until November. That wasn't the plan."

All the time together helped Cruz and his horse.

"In the barn she's laid back, an easygoing horse, but on the track she's kind of tough," he said. "She likes to gallop. She has one big cruising speed and as a rider you start to think she wants to run off. Really, she has a high cruising speed and if you let her get there, she'll settle in. If you panic and reach up to grab her, she'll get tough."

NOTES: In his first ride since September 2021, jockey Sheldon Russell won a 2-year-old maiden with Heldish at Laurel July 1. The 34-year-old was hurt Sept. 9 when 2-year-old filly Little Bit of That got spooked and reared heading to the track before what was to be her career debut. Russell was thrown and landed on his right foot, toes-first, and was diagnosed with a Lisfranc injury, involving both the bones and ligaments in the middle part of his foot. He had surgery to repair the injury and, following a long recovery and rehab, began getting on horses again in April but broke his collarbone during morning training to extend the layoff. Russell, a winner of 1,515 lifetime races through July 16, won with two of his first dozen mounts in the return. "I'm thrilled to be back riding again and it really felt great to be back in the winner's circle and kind of take the edge off," Russell said. "Hopefully we can pick things up and we can get some business." . . . Jockey Jevian Toledo recorded a rare stakes double July 2 as he piloted Whereshetoldmetogo to victory in the Alapocas Run at Delaware Park and was back at Laurel in time to win the Caesar's Wish with Hybrid Eclipse a few hours later. Racing for Magic Oaks and trainer Brittany Russell, Hybrid Eclipse won for the second time in three starts this year while becoming a stakes winner . . . Family, friends and members of the Maryland jockey colony gathered in the winner's circle after the sixth race June 24 in honor of the late Al Little, who worked as a valet in Maryland for riders such as Forest Boyce, Horacio Karamanos, Yomar Ortiz, Calixto Juarez, Lauralea Glaser and Richard Monterrey. ◆

The Triple Crown

A lot has been written and said about the Triple Crown since the connections of Kentucky Derby-G1 winner Rich Strike elected to bypass the Preakness Stakes-G1 and wait to run their horse in the Belmont Stakes-G1 instead of going for the glory of winning all three races.

Among others, Randy Moss, the erudite television commentator for NBC, has argued that modern training methods and modern trainers' tendency to space horses' races farther apart have caused the Triple Crown to be tarnished by the non-participation of most Derby starters in the Preakness. This school of thought believes that spacing the races farther apart would encourage more participation in the Preakness by the 19 Derby starters who do not win the Run for the Roses. The spacing often suggested is to run the races on the first Saturdays of May, June and July, putting the Belmont Stakes on the Fourth of July Weekend. The argument ignores that there has been a Triple Crown winner in two of the last eight years.

The opposite school of thought relies, mostly, on tradition and history. "It's always been done this way and to fool with the spacing would make it impossible to compare the Triple Crown winners of the past with those of the future." There is a lot of talk about asterisks and Roger Maris. Another argument used by traditionalists posits that the non-racing public's attention to racing can only be held for a finite period of time and spacing the races four or more weeks apart would have a detrimental effect on viewership and handle or, in another word, money.

In a recent interview on the TDN Writers' Room (a podcast I recommend) Chad Brown, the poster boy for the modern trainer's tendency to space his horses' races, opined that he is a great lover of the history and tradition of racing and for that reason would like to see the Triple Crown left untouched. This from the man who has won two runnings of the Preakness with horses who skipped the Kentucky Derby and whose Kentucky Derby-placed Zandon skipped the Preakness and the Belmont this year.

Here are the facts:

• Everyone wants to win the Kentucky Derby.

• If a horse doesn't win the Derby, there is little incentive (other than the large purse) to run in the Preakness.

• The Belmont Stakes is the only lucrative race for 3-year-olds at 1½ miles.

• The Grade 1 Haskell Invitational (at 1⅛ miles) with a purse of $1.75 million is worth more than the Belmont ($1.5 million).

• The Jim Dandy Stakes (Grade 2 at 1⅛ miles) has a purse of $600,000.

• The Grade 1 Travers Stakes (at 1¼ miles) has a purse of $1.25 million.

Quite frankly, the Belmont Stakes, at 1½ miles is no longer a race owners seeking to make stallion prospects covet for their horses' resumes. It is safe to say that if a horse is only going to win one Grade 1 in its 3-year-old campaign most owners would prefer to win the Haskell or the Travers. Belmont winners who do not win another Grade 1 are seen as plodders and have a greatly diminished value in the stud. The names Sir Winston, Tapwrit and Da' Tara jump to mind.

If the Triple Crown races were to be spaced farther apart, as suggested by many, the lure of the rich purses in late July and August would certainly give pause to any owner of a non-Kentucky Derby winner when deciding whether to ask that horse to do something he or she will probably never be asked to do again; and will not have that great an effect on the residual value; that is, run 1½ miles in the Belmont Stakes.

Perhaps, contrary to the Triple Crown hype, the Belmont Stakes has simply lost its relevance on the American racing calendar and is only held, by many, in great esteem because of its inclusion in the Triple Crown marketing machine. A comparison of crowd size in Triple Crown years with that in non-Triple Crown years bears this out. In 2022, Belmont Park imposed a cap of 50,000 and even that was higher than the 47,000 who made the trek to Elmont.

When the Belmont was run as the first race of the series in 2020 (and shortened to 1⅛ miles) only nine horses lined up to face Tiz the Law. Two-and-a-half months later, when the Kentucky Derby was run in September, 14 horses, with no chance of winning the Triple Crown, lined up against the Belmont winner. While almost everyone wants to win the Triple Crown, absolutely everyone wants to win the Kentucky Derby.

So what would happen to the Preakness and the Belmont if they were rescheduled to the first Saturday in June and the first Saturday in July? Nothing would happen to the Preakness. It would remain a race for the Derby winner, horses not ready for the Derby and a few of the Derby starters whose connections felt the shorter distance might give their horses a chance. On the other hand, assuming there is no horse going for the Triple Crown, the Belmont Stakes would become the secondary feature on the Metropolitan Handicap card as it kind of was this year. ◆

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Richard F. Blue Jr., J. William Boniface, William K. Boniface, Frank A. Bonsal, R. Thomas Bowman, Hal C.B. Clagett III, Kimball C. Firestone, Michael Harrison DVM, King T. Leatherbury, J.W.Y. Martin Jr., Joseph P. Pons Jr., Michael Pons, Katharine M. Voss, Robert B. White

2022 MHBA Board of Directors election results

The Maryland Horse Breeders Association membership selected one incumbent, one returning and three new members to the 2022 Board of Directors. Dictated by MHBA bylaws, the annual election fills five open seats on the board. Those elected serve for the next three years. Returning to the board are Michael Horning, secretary-treasurer of the MHBA who was first elected in 2019, and Kent A. Murray, the MHBA secretary-treasurer from 2018-20 who had served six consecutive years from 2015-20 and was back on the ballot this year. Joining the board for the first time are Amy Burk, Grace Merryman and Gina Robb.

First-time MHBA board members (clockwise from top left): Gina Robb, Amy Burk and Grace Merryman.

Amy O. Burk. Coordinator of the University of Maryland's Equine Studies Program since 2001, including overseeing a Thoroughbred breeding program from 2014-19, Burk has a Ph.D. in equine nutrition and has taught equine reproductive management at UMD since 2018. Many of her more than 100 students in equine reproductive management work at breeding farms or as veterinarians. The Howard County resident, a governor appointee to the Maryland Horse Industry Board and past board member of the Maryland Horse Council and Equine Science Society, looks to "foster recruitment and retention of youth in the breeding industry, to enhance workforce development opportunities, and to improve quality and management of horses bred through education."

Michael F. Horning. The secretary-treasurer of the MHBA as well as the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, Horning is a retired insurance executive from Potomac (Montgomery County) who has bred and owned numerous Maryland-bred stakes winners with his wife, Debbie. His plans are to continue to "promote the Maryland horse breeding industry and encourage new participation in the sport. . . to work to maintain the revenue stream from VLTs and en-

sure stability of the Bred Fund that is critical to the breeding industry in the state. . . and assist MHBA to optimize its financial position and investment portfolio to enhance its resources."

Grace Merryman. Owner of Anchor and Hope Farm in Cecil County with her husband Louis Merryman since 2016, where they stand four stallions, Merryman graduated with an animal science degree from the University of Delaware and worked for nearly a decade at Walnut Green Farm in Pennsylvania. Breeder of juvenile stakes winner and graded stakes-placed Raging Whiskey (by home stallion Bourbon Courage) and breeder/owner of 2021 stakes winner Exculpatory, Merryman brings a unique perspective of the Maryland industry. "I own regional stallions and breed to them for both breed-to-race and breed-to-sell, plus I have a Kentucky-sired horse in training. I can appreciate the benefits and challenges of the policies and programs within Maryland racing. I look forward to continuing on with the traditions and focusing on ways to better the industry as a whole."

Kent Allen Murray. A program manager for Northrop Grumman Corporation, Murray has a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and a master's in business administration.

He grew up on his family's Murmur Farm in Darlington and performed all duties associated with farm life. Murray continues to be a consultant and account manager for the farm owned by his mother Audrey Murray, which stands one of the state's leading sires, Blofeld. He also owns with his wife Donna, Twin Oaks Farm, a horse boarding facility in Aberdeen (Harford County). Murray wants to "represent Thoroughbred horse breeders and owners from Maryland by encouraging new thoughts, listening to input, and acting in the best interest of the members."

Gina Robb. The owner of No Guts No Glory Farm in Woodbine (Howard County) since 2017, Robb has had a varied career in the industry, having worked in Thoroughbred sales, as an assistant trainer, and as a television racing analyst.

With her husband, trainer John Robb, she has bred and campaigned a number of stakes horses, led by 11-time stakes winner Anna's Bandit.

Of the five directors whose terms expired this year, Richard F. Blue Jr., Louis Merryman and Sabrina Moore were ineligible to stand for reelection, having served six consecutive years on the MHBA Board.

James B. Steele was termed out after having served 18 years on the board. Those whose terms have not expired are George Adams, Ellen M. Charles, Michael D. Golden DVM, Michael J. Harrison DVM, Christy Holden, Ann B. Jackson, A. Leonard Pineau VMD, William Reightler, Thomas J. Rooney and Adair B. Stifel. ❧

Governor's Cup awards presented

Armata Stable's two-time Maryland Hunt Cup winner Vintage Vinnie (Ire) was named Maryland Governor's Cup Horse of the Year for the second consecutive year by the Maryland Steeplechase Association. The Maryland Governor's Cup Series recognizes the top performers in events throughout the state, which started with the Foxhall Farm Cup Team Chase March 20 and concluded at the Potomac Hunt Races May 15. The awards were presented June 16 at the association's annual awards reception at the Green Spring Valley Hunt Club in Owings Mills.

Perfect in both his 2022 sanctioned starts, Perry Bolton and Ben Griswold IV's 13-year-old Vintage Vinnie, trained by Joe Davies, went wire-to-wire to win this year's Hunt Cup by 62½ lengths, getting the 4 miles in 8:15 flat to break his own course record of 8:22.60. His two Hunt Cup victories were by a combined 175 lengths.

The bay gelding got his 2022 season started with a victory in the John D. Schapiro Memorial apprentice timber at My Lady's Manor two weeks earlier. Teddy Davies, Joe Davies' son, was aboard for both wins.

Earlier this year, the MSA announced a new award, the Maryland Irish-Bred Horse of the Year, sponsored by Irish Thoroughbred Marketing. As the leading Irish-bred, Vintage Vinnie won awards of $1,000 for his owners and $1,000 for his trainer.

Include It was the top Maryland-bred for the second time, after sharing the title in 2021. Bred by Fitzhugh, the 7-year-old Include gelding is owned by Riverdee Stable and trained by Todd Wyatt. He won the open timber race at the Elkridge-Harford Point-to-Point and had a repeat victory in the Western Run Plate apprentice timber at the Grand National.

Overall leading rider Teddy Davies had seven wins (including the Foxhall Team Chase), three seconds, and three thirds. All seven wins came aboard horses trained by his father, who was the leading trainer.

Joe Davies, the trainer of six straight Hunt Cup winners (one with Derwins Prospector, two with Vintage Vinnie and three with Senior Senator), recorded seven wins this spring, plus sent out the three horses on the winning Foxhall Team. ❧

Maryland Governor's Cup Horse of the Year (Open Timber Champion): Vintage Vinnie (Ire) (Armata Stables)

Maryland Novice Timber Champion: Boutonniere (Ballybristol Farm LLC)

Amateur/Apprentice Timber Horse and Rider Champion: Include It & Elizabeth Scully

Heavyweight Timber Champion: Blackhall (Ire) (Kinross Farm)

ITM Leading Irish-bred Horse of the Year: Vintage Vinnie (Ire)

Leading Maryland-bred Horse of the Year: Include It (Riverdee Stable)

Leading Maryland Million-sired Horse of the Year: Bogey's Image (Daniel Colhoun, Achsah O'Donovan and Harvey Goolsby)

H. Turney McKnight Perpetual Trophy Leading Owner: Armata Stables

Will O'Keefe, founder of the Central Entry Office, was honored with the inaugural Good Will Award for his many years of service to the steeplechase industry.

James Wyatt, 2022 MSA leading junior horse rider, accepts the Jonathan Kiser Scholarship Award from president Mike Wharton (left) and Joe Davies.

Yomar Ortiz Jr. and 2022 MSA leading medium pony rider Paige Wyatt accept the D.M. Smithwick Jr. Foxhunting Scholarship awards from vice-president Crystal B. Pickett (left) and Mike Wharton.

Horse of the year presentation for Vintage Vinnie (Ire) included, from left: Teddy, Joe and Blythe Davies, Mid-Atlantic Farm Credit representatives Ellie Grossnickle and Keith Wills, Perry Bolton and Ashton Williams.

Elizabeth Scully, 2022 MSA leading lady rider, accepts trophy from Crystal B. Pickett.

Virginia Korrell, winner of the 2022 Voss Amateur Flat Series, accepts trophy from Garrett Murray.

Leading Trainer: Joseph Davies

H. Brooks Durkee Memorial Perpetual Trophy for Leading Timber Rider: Freddie Procter

Thomas H. Voss Memorial Perpetual Trophy for the Leading Amateur Rider: Teddy Davies

Overall Leading Rider: Teddy Davies

Leading Lady Rider: Elizabeth Scully

Voss Amateur Flat Series: Virginia Korrell

Leading junior small pony rider: Carly Kern

Leading junior medium pony rider: Paige Wyatt

Leading junior large pony rider: Carly Kern

Austin Michael Ciba Tamberino Leading Junior Rider Award: Carly Kern

Leading junior horse rider: James Wyatt

Jonathan Kiser Memorial Scholarship: James Wyatt

D.M. Smithwick Jr. Junior Foxchasing Scholarship: Yomar Ortiz Jr., Paige Wyatt

Junior Cubbing Scholarship: Will Slater

Will Slater accepts the Cubbing Scholarship from Mike Wharton in recognition of his successful 2022 season.

Carly Kern, 2022 MSA leading small and large pony rider, accepts trophy from Mike Wharton.

Teddy Davies, 2022 MSA overall leading rider, accepts award from Mike Wharton.

MHBA director Bill Reightler presented the $500 MSA Leading Maryland-bred to Riverdee Stable's Include It, represented by trainer Todd Wyatt, rider Elizabeth Scully, and partners Carolyn Stautberg, Sean Clancy, Mary Charlotte Parr and Ellen Waterman.

Maryland-bred Stakes Winners

Aloha West returns to winner's circle after Churchill stakes

Coady Photography

Seeking his first win since his score in the Breeders' Cup Sprint-G1 at Del Mar last November, Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners' Aloha West succeeded in the Kelly's Landing Stakes at Churchill Downs July 2. He won by a neck in his third start of the year.

"We're glad he got his feet back underneath him today," said trainer Wayne Catalano. "He ran into some stiff competition in his last two starts and he was coming off the layoff. Our goal is to get him back to Keeneland for the Breeders' Cup Sprint. Today, we started our way back by getting his confidence back. Joel [Rosario] had to ask him a little bit early in the race just to keep his position since he was inside of horses."

Aloha West returned to the races six months after his Breeders' Cup and tackled last year's Eclipse Award-winning sprinter Jackie's Warrior going 7 furlongs in the Grade 1 Churchill Downs Stakes on Derby Day, May 7. Aloha West finished third. His next start was equally challenging as he took on Flightline in the 1-mile Grade 1 Metropolitan Handicap and wound up fourth.

The 5-year-old son of Hard Spun had a class edge in the Kelly's Landing. Sent off the 9-10 favorite in the field of seven, he rated off fractions of :22.33, :44.80 and 1:09.07 along the rail, shifted out when asked to quicken turning into the stretch and caught the pacesetter in the final sixteenth. Driving to the wire he held off Miles Ahead after 6½ furlongs in 1:15.44.

"I think he got his confidence back today," said Rosario. "He's a very talented horse and showed his class today."

Aloha West was bred by Bob Manfuso and Katy Voss out of Island Bound, a Grade 3-winning daughter of Speightstown campaigned by Manfuso with Ian Wilkes and Voss. The Breeders' Cup winner was sold by his breeders as a yearling at the 2018 Keeneland September sale for $160,000 to agent Ben Glass.

First campaigned by Gary and Mary West, Aloha West won his debut and was sold to Eclipse after his second start.

One of four winners from five starters for Island Bound, Aloha West has won half his 12 starts, with two seconds and a third, while amassing $1,507,290. He has a 2-year-old half-sister by Good Samaritan named Little Bristol and a yearling half-sister by Divining Rod.

Island Bound foaled a Golden Lad colt May 5. ❧

Edie Meeny Miny Mo wins Regret at Monmouth

Equi-Photo, Inc.

Edie Meeny Miny Mo dares other horses to catch her. Four times in seven starts she has proven elusive, including Monmouth Park's $100,000 Regret Stakes for 3-year-old fillies at 6 furlongs July 2.

Holly Hill Stables' 4-year-old daughter of Upstart cleared her five rivals from her outside post and led through fractions of :22.29, :44.44 and :56.28. When Club Car took aim in the final furlong to her outside, Edie Meeny Miny Mo dug in under Paco Lopez and the two favorites battled down the stretch, with Edie Meeny Miny Mo getting her head in front. The final time was 1:08.71.

It was the first stakes win for Edie Meeny Miny Mo, who ran twice in graded stakes. She was second in her stakes debut, the historic Grade 3 Monmouth Oaks at 1 1⁄16 miles last July, after setting the pace and kicking clear in the stretch before grudgingly giving way.

She shipped to Saratoga for her next start, the Grade 2 Prioress at 6 furlongs, and blazed through an opening quarter in :22.25 and a half in :45.06. She gave way to finish fifth.

A long-legged dark bay from the first crop of millionaire Upstart out of 2011 Maryland-bred champion 2-year-old filly Plum, Edie Meeny Miny Mo stood out at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic sale of 2-year-olds in late June 2020. Getting an eighth-mile in :10.0 at the under tack show, equaling the sale's fastest time, she was purchased by Sallusto/Albina, agent, for $400,000. Consigned by Cary Frommer, the future stakes winner was the second-highest priced filly of the sale.

Edie Meeny Miny Mo didn't race at 2, but dazzled when she made her first two appearances at Pimlico the following spring, winning an April waiver maiden and a June allowance by a combined 10¼ lengths.

Transferred from trainer Miguel Vera to Michelle Hemingway this year, Edie Meeny Miny Mo didn't get the lead in her first start of 2022 at Tampa Bay Downs in April and ran evenly, finishing fourth. Her spark returned next out in a June allowance at Monmouth as she posted fractions of :22.10, :45.17 and :57.79 and drove home a 3¼-length winner going 6 furlongs.

She now has earnings of $211,194.

Edie Meeny Miny Mo is the latest of a line of stakes performers bred by David and JoAnn Hayden's Dark Hollow Farm descending from the Naked Sky mare Munchkin Michele, her third dam.

The Haydens purchased Munchkin Michele at age 14 at the 1998 Keeneland January sale for $27,000 while in foal to Gilded Time. The mare produced three foals at Dark Hollow, all winners, the last four-time stakes-placed Bamba.

A daughter of Not For Love, Bamba proved a prolific producer–all seven foals bred by the Haydens won, including Maryland Million Classic runner-up, 12-time winner and $417,508-earner Southside Warrior, and the Pure Prize filly Plum.

Campaigned by the Haydens, Plum won three of four at 2, including the Maryland Juvenile Filly Championship Stakes, and was stakes-placed at 3. Retired to the broodmare band, Plum has produced six named foals. Of her four to start, three are winners, including the Dark Hollow campaigned Toy (2017, by Tapizar), an allowance winner of $115,500. The mare's current 2-year-old, a Twirling Candy colt, sold for $115,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale; her yearling is a May 4 filly by Unified. Plum was not bred for this year. ❧

Fille d'Esprit much the best in Susquehanna Valley Stakes

Equi-Photo, Inc.

C J I Phoenix Group and No Guts No Glory Farm's Fille d'Esprit came out swinging, pulling away down the stretch to win the $100,000 Susquehanna Valley Stakes, for fillies and mares, by 2¼ lengths at Penn National June 17.

Coming off a second in Pimlico's Skipat Stakes in May, Fille d'Esprit stalked early leader Hey Mamaluke from the outside through a quarter mile in :21.97. Fille d'Esprit made her move around the far turn, with Cinnabunny following, passed the leader and took charge down the stretch while covering 6 furlongs in 1:09.38 for Xavier Perez.

"It set up as I thought it would," trainer Jerry Robb said. "She stalked and stayed close. When Xavier asked her, she exploded."

The 6-year-old daughter of Great Notion added a second stakes victory to her record as she improved to 17-9-4-1 with $353,726 in earnings. The race, part of the second leg of the Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred Champion Series, earned Fille d'Esprit 10 points in the 3-Year-Olds and Up Fillies and Mares Sprint - Dirt division.

Fille d'Esprit made the first two starts of her career at 4 for breeders, Jim and Gail Poulos' Sweet Spirits Stables. She debuted in a $10,000 maiden claimer in June 2020 at Laurel Park with trainer Christie Clagett, and broke her maiden by 3 lengths in her second start at the same level.

She was claimed two months later, in her third start, for $10,000 by Robb for his and his wife Gina's No Guts No Glory Farm and partner C J I Phoenix Group.

In eight starts at 4, Fille d'Esprit won six times, which tied her for 16th in the nation by wins that year.

Fille d'Esprit was off for 10 months before returning in the Maryland Million Distaff last October, her stakes debut, where she finished last in the field of six. She concluded her season with a 7-length allowance score in December.

Bred on the same cross–a daughter of Great Notion out of a No Armistice mare–as Robb's star trainee Anna's Bandit, Fille d'Esprit has faced nothing but stakes company this year at 6. She got her first stakes win in the Conniver at Laurel in March; has seconds in Laurel's Heavenly Cause in April and Pimlico's Skipat in May; and was third in the Grade 3 Barbara Fritchie, a length behind winner Glass Ceiling, after steadying in traffic while making a run, in February.

The Pouloses still have homebred mare Sweet Valor, whose two starters are winners. Yet to start is her 3-year-old Editorial colt Sweet Syntax. The mare has a yearling filly by No Never No More named Never More Valor, and foaled a filly by Blofeld this May named Cross of Valor. ❧

Halfinthewrapper wins back-to-back stakes in Canada

Lets Dance Stable's Halfinthewrapper came out swinging in the La Verendrye Stakes ($35,750-guaranteed Canadian) for fillies and mares, leading gate-to-wire to win by three-quarters of a length June 22 at Assiniboia Downs in Winnipeg, Canada.

Just three weeks after her dominating victory in the Ruby's Big Band Stakes ($20,000-added), Halfinthewrapper started out in similar fashion, flying to the front of the eight-horse field and leading through a quarter-mile in :22.80 and a half in :45. Hidden Grace picked up the pace down the stretch, as Spun Line struck out a massive run, both attempting to run down the leader to no avail as Halfinthewrapper crossed the finish line in 1:11.20 for 6 furlongs.

The 5-year-old daughter of Great Notion, trained by Mike Taphorn, boosted her record to 7-4-5 from 27 career starts, with $147,357 in earnings.

Finishing second in her debut at Timonium as a 2-year-old in August 2019, Halfinthewrapper broke her maiden next time at Laurel Park in October over 10 rivals, drawing away to score by 7 lengths at 5½ furlongs. That effort sent her to the Maryland Million Lassie, where she finished fourth behind Hello Beautiful.

She didn't win again until the following September, in her debut at Pimlico, and exited the race for new connections when claimed for $10,000. Two starts later she was claimed again, this time for $16,000 at Laurel Park. Over five months in 2020 she changed hands four times, all claims in Maryland, and made her final start in her home state in January 2021 at Laurel where she finished second, by a neck to Paisley Singing, in a 5½-furlong starter for Kieron Magee.

Four and a half months later she was racing in Canada.

Last year from May through December, Halfinthewrapper made 10 starts on the Canadian racing circuit, six at Assiniboia (including a sixth in the La Verendrye) and four at Woodbine, and recorded her sole win in an Assiniboia allowance in July.

J. Halstead / Assiniboia Photo

Halfinthewrapper made her first start in six months in the Ruby's Big Band June 1, in which she motored to the front, flew through the first quarter in :21.60 and the half in :44.40 while leading by as many as 9 lengths, and cruised home 4¾ lengths in :57.60 for 5 furlongs.

Bred by Dr. Morgan Dove and Karin Wurttemberger, Halfinthewrapper is one of two winners from two starters out of Bear Slayer, a daughter of Two Punch. Her second dam is the stakes-placed Stormy Atlantic mare Big Cat Walks Late. Of Bear Slayer's three foals since Halfinthewrapper–fillies by Golden Lad and Great Notion, and a yearling colt by Uncle Lino–none have been named. ❧

Whereshetoldmetogo defends Alapocas Run title at Delaware Park

Whereshetoldmetogo is right on schedule as he defended his title in the $100,000 Alapocas Run Stakes at Delaware Park July 2, drawing away to win by 2¾ lengths after 6 furlongs in 1:09.61.

The Brittany Russell trainee remained undefeated in three starts this year, the Not For Love Stakes in his 7-year-old debut in March followed by a daylight victory in allowance company at Laurel in late April. That's one win better than the same time last year when the big-bodied chestnut won the Not For Love, was off the board in a Pimlico stakes in which he clipped heels and was eased, then returned to take the Alapocas Run. He made eight starts in 2021, all in stakes company, and won four.

Proving he has not lost a step, Whereshetoldmetogo stalked the pace in the 2022 Alapocas Run under Jevian Toledo, made his move heading into the far turn and vied for the lead as he straightened out for his stretch drive. He powered away to win in a time more than a second faster than the 2021 running.

Hoofprints, Inc.

The latest victory for the gelding owned by Madaket Stables, Ten Strike Racing, Michael E. Kisber and BTR Racing was the 16th of his career, and 12th in a stakes, from 35 starts, and pushed his earnings to $895,295.

Whereshetoldmetogo is near perfect at Delaware Park. He has crossed the line first in seven of his eight Delaware

Park starts, but was to disqualified to second in the 2020 New Castle, a race he returned to win officially in 2021. His only other loss was a second, by a neck, at 2.

Bred by David Wade, Whereshetoldmetogo is one of seven winners from eight starters for Domestic Dispute's winning daughter Undisputed Legend, also the dam of stakes-placed Castlewood Terrace. The mare has a yearling colt by Mendelssohn, who is catalogued to the Fasig-Tipton Saratoga select sale, and delivered a filly by Vekoma this year. ❧

Maryland Fund Report

Bonuses paid for races at Maryland tracks
April 1 to April 30, 2022

Breeder bonuses

Includes the additional 10 percent Maryland-sired bonus for winners of maiden races, initiated Jan. 1 during the 2022 Laurel winter meet. That bonus is reflected in the second figure earned for the race.

Linda L. Albert—Mit Mazel: April 1, 7th race, $2,640.

Anchor and Hope Farm Inc.—Boss Man J J: April 2, 2nd race, $6,237/$2,079; April 22, 4th race, $2,112. Gennie Highway: April 24, 7th race, $1,584. Ink: April 1, 4th race, $2,178. Uncommon Valor: April 1, 6th race, $1,650. ($15,840)

Angelinos Racing LLC—Blueberry Indygo: April 9, 5th race, $1,584. Maximus Midani: April 10, 7th race, $7,920. ($9,504)

John and Cheryl Banner—I'm Blushing: April 16, 5th race, $9,108/$3,036. ($12,144)

Barak Farm—One Ten: April 30, 8th race, $1,584. She Is Wisky: April 9, 5th race, $9,504; April 29, 8th race, $3,168. Some Is Nine: April 28, 1st race, $1,386. Vodkatini: April 10, 3rd race, $1,287. ($16,929)

Barak Farm and Dinos Thoroughbreds LLC—Gustav's Girl: April 8, 9th race, $1,287.

Barak Farm and Sharon Dodgen—Backnthewoods: April 7, 6th race, $7,722.

William Bayne and Super C Racing—Bliss This: April 2, 5th race, $2,079; April 22, 5th race, $1,039.50. ($3,118.50)

Teresa L. Beste—Demo Doctor: April 21, 5th race, $1,138.50.

Best Foot Forward LLC—Gallant Gold: April 14, 8th race, $1,584.

Black Fox Farm—Remembering Wilbur: April 3, 5th race, $1,039.50; April 22, 5th race, $6,237/$2,079. ($9,355.50)

Charles Blanford—Uncle Irish: April 30, 8th race, $3,168.

Richard F. Blue Jr.—The Last Scip: April 29, 9th race, $2,574.

Bonita Farm—Sommer Velvet: April 24, 4th race, $2,277.

William T. Bourne—Silver's Girl: April 15, 3rd race, $2,079.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman—Proper Attire: April 15, 9th race, $10,296.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Michael Bishop—Image Maker: April 1, 4th race, $1,089.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Dr. Brooke Bowman—Cabra Chica: April 14, 3rd race, $5,544. Street Lute: April 23, 7th race, $3,000. What Does It Take: April 3, 4th race, $6,336; April 21, 6th race, $6,534. ($21,414)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Quin Bowman and Rebecca Davis—Clubman: April 3, 7th race, $5,544; April 28, 5th race, $1,848. ($7,392)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Ricky Buckley and Joshua Dreiband—Dr. Ferber: April 15, 5th race, $858.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Rebecca Davis—Shady Munni: April 9, 7th race, $9,504. Tom Terrific: April 21, 3rd race, $1,122. ($10,626)

Bowman and Higgins Stable—Congress Hall: April 7, 1st race, $3,366. Rustys Gfivefifty: April 9, 2nd race, $6,831/$7,920. ($18,117)

Bowman and Higgins Stable and Dr. Brooke Bowman—Unrequited Love: April 8, 8th race, $924.

Shellaine Brown, Susan Baldrige, Horseshoe Valley, Treasure Stable—Going to the Lead: April 3, 6th race, $1,716; April 29, 7th race, $10,296. ($12,012)

Burning Daylight Farm Inc.—Instparty: April 10, 1st race, $1,386.

CandyLand Farm—Biscotto d'Oro: April 8, 2nd race, $693.

Melissa Cantacuzene—Charming Way: April 9, 5th race, $3,168.

Dennis A. Cardoza—Captain Cardo: April 16, 1st race, $561.

Louis C. Carrico—Divine Proportion: April 14, 9th race, $1,122.

Classic Thoroughbred—Callyourightback: April 8, 5th race, $693.

Cordelia Stables LLC—Rebel Victory: April 1, 9th race, $4,950/$1,650. ($6,600)

Country Life Farm—Maid the Journey: April 15, 5th race, $5,148.

Country Life Farm and As Long As Ittakes LLC—Jasontakeslong: April 9, 2nd race, $2,277.

Country Life Farm and Broken Trust Fund LLC—Wicked Prankster: April 28, 2nd race, $6,336.

Country Life Farm and Laura's Moon LLC—Joe Mike Jim: April 24, 4th race, $6,831.

Country Life Farm and Sassy Molly LLC—Jebologist: April 9, 4th race, $1,716. Pepe and Heywood: April 14, 2nd race, $726. ($2,442)

Country Roads Ltd.—Utterly Courageous: April 10, 3rd race, $2,574.

CRK Stable LLC—Excellorator: April 7, 7th race, $9,504.

Dark Hollow Farm—Consultant: April 30, 7th race, $7,722.

Dark Hollow Farm and Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Davidov—Combat Queen: April 22, 7th race, $3,168.

John C. Davison—Super Love: April 16, 2nd race, $9,108.

Deer Creek Racing—Mo Fire: April 24, 6th race, $1,584.

Tori M. deVries and Broad Creek Bloodstock LLC—Divine Victory: April 21, 8th race, $1,386.

George L. Doetsch—Winston's Gold: April 3, 3rd race, $4,950/$1,650. ($6,600)

Dragon's Lair Farm LLC—Baptize the Boy: April 30, 2nd race, $4,158.

Annette Eubanks and Daniel Eubanks—Hot Lookin Royal: April 28, 9th race, $4,158/$1,386. Rockinhippiechick: April 9, 3rd race, $4,950; April 28, 4th race, $2,112. ($12,606)

Finale Farm and Mr. and Mrs. David Moose—Hufflepuff: April 8, 7th race, $1,056; April 28, 4th race, $6,336. ($7,392)

Finn's Nickel LLC and Copper Penny Stables—Bourbon On the Bay: April 30, 7th race, $1,287.

Fitzhugh LLC—Royal Number: April 10, 7th race, $2,640; April 28, 8th race, $9,504. ($12,144)

Germania Farms Inc.—Scintillio: April 15, 1st race, $1,287.

Glenangus Farm LLC—Colorofacloud: April 7, 2nd race, $1,386; April 28, 1st race, $693. Good Measure: April 1, 7th race, $1,320. ($3,399)

Sheryl Grant—Heaven's Got Fire: April 10, 6th race, $3,036.

Fred A. Greene Jr., Deborah Greene and Hamilton Smith—Luna Belle: April 16, 6th race, $18,000.

Mark B. Grier—Field Pass: April 23, 10th race, $3,000.

Mary Haire—Satisfied: April 7, 8th race, $693.

Nancy B. Heil—Karan's Notion: April 8, 6th race, $1,848; April 29, 6th race, $3,696. ($5,544)

Maryland-bred top earners in 2022

(through June 30)

1.	Knicks Go	$585,000	
2.	Luna Belle	255,000	
3.	Cordmaker	195,000	
4.	Joe	194,744	
5.	Mama G's Wish	172,785	
6.	Fille d'Esprit	169,400	
7.	Divine Huntress	155,000	
8.	Eastern Bay	141,072	
9.	Aloha West	138,500	
10.	Proper Attire	133,038	
11.	Kiss the Girl	$132,000	
12.	Going to the Lead	129,426	
13.	Jaxon Traveler	125,600	
14.	Uncle Irish	113,532	
15.	Princess Kokachin	110,185	
16.	Mattitude	106,380	
17.	Plot the Dots	106,334	
18.	Summer Odds	105,825	
19.	Lady Zeta	105,466	
20.	Response Time	104,326	

Highclere and Five Hellions Farm—Free Square: April 21, 2nd race, $7,920.

Hillwood Stable LLC—Reassured: April 10, 7th race, $1,320.

Holly House Farm—Summer Odds: April 8, 7th race, $6,336; April 22, 8th race, $9,504. ($15,840)

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Holt and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Palumbo—Shinelikeadiamond: April 21, 4th race, $6,237/$2,079. Vinny: April 3, 5th race, $6,237/$2,079. ($16,632)

Hope Hill Farm—Buff My Boots: April 15, 9th race, $3,432.

Kyle Horlacher—Crabs N Beer: April 16, 3rd race, $6,534.

Jagger Inc.—Heartness: April 9, 7th race, $1,584. Muchacho Macho: April 8, 4th race, $3,366; April 29, 4th race, $693. ($5,643)

Gayle Marshall Johnson—Moon Biz: April 29, 3rd race, $693.

R. Larry Johnson—A Lot Like Xmas: April 29, 9th race, $1,287. Day the Music Died: April 1, 8th race, $3,366. Fashionista: April 21, 4th race, $2,079. Hollywood Walk: April 15, 8th race, $3,036; April 30, 3rd race, $2,574. Magic in Me: April 2, 6th race, $924. Mr Jefferson: April 16, 9th race, $6,000. Whenigettoheaven: April 2, 2nd race, $2,079. Who Knows What: April 9, 8th race, $2,640; April 22, 8th race, $3,168. ($27,153)

Gordon Keys—Grateful Bred: April 23, 6th race, $6,000.

David N. Krasnoff—Solomon's Choice: April 7, 4th race, $2,079.

Lady Olivia at North Cliff LLC—Bedtimebourbon: April 8, 9th race, $7,722/$2,574. Mailman's a Flyer: April 30, 5th race, $1,039.50. Martharita: April 29, 3rd race, $1,386. ($12,721.50)

Carl Lanier—He's Orientate: April 16, 3rd race, $2,178.

Andrea G. Lematta—Ice Rain: April 3, 8th race, $693.

Kenneth F. Lowe Jr.—Special Freedom: April 10, 8th race, $1,386.

Estate of Robert T. Manfuso—Chauffeur: April 8, 5th race, $1,386; April 23, 5th race, $4,950. Chica Rabiosa: April 16, 10th race, $4,950. ($11,286)

Robert T. Manfuso and Katharine M. Voss—End Run: April 1, 9th race, $825.

Daniel E. Marconi—Galerio: April 21, 7th race, $3,696.

Mary E. Eppler Racing Stable and A. Leonard Pineau—Amicalola Falls: April 22, 1st race, $1,386.

James F. McIngvale—Runup: April 15, 9th race, $1,716.

Kevin P. Morgan—Imagine the Mojo: April 2, 6th race, $1,848. Mavilus: April 15, 4th race, $4,950; April 28, 7th race, $825. ($7,623)

Angie G. Moore—Cosmicality: April 28, 6th race, $1,584.

Murmur Farm—Goldenize: April 14, 8th race, $9,504.

Audrey R. Murray—Pounding Music: April 30, 3rd race, $7,722/$2,574. ($10,296)

Nancy Lee Farms—Eastern Bay: April 3, 6th race, $10,296.

No Guts No Glory Farm—Bandits Warrior: April 10, 4th race, $1,584. Big Daddy D R: April 3, 3rd race, $1,650. Cocktail Dreaming: April 30, 1st race, $3,036. Mama G's Wish: April 14, 6th race, $2,640. ($8,910)

Northview Stallion Station Inc.—All for Love: April 15, 2nd race, $5,544. Monarch Beach: April 16, 10th race, $825. ($6,369)

Clarke Ohrstrom—Lightning Rod: April 28, 2nd race, $1,056.

Charles V. Parker—Mose Perfect: April 30, 5th race, $6,237/$2,079. ($8,316)

A. Leonard Pineau—No More Mask: April 8, 1st race, $4,752; April 14, 3rd race, $1,848. ($6,600)

Darci Rice—Had the Notion: April 10, 2nd race, $3,366.

Cynthia K. Rickman—Embrace the Whinny: April 1, 3rd race, $4,950/$1,650. ($6,600)

Eric A. Rizer and Nancy M. Rizer—Subject to Change: April 21, 3rd race, $3,366.

Timothy J. Rooney—B Determined: April 28, 6th race, $9,504.

John Salzman Jr., Grady Griffin and Bird Mobberley—No Money Down: April 15, 2nd race, $1,848.

Skeedattle Associates—Cush Effect: April 30, 3rd race, $1,287.

Mary Slade—Island Philo: April 15, 3rd race, $6,237/$2,079. ($8,316)

Franklin G. Smith Sr.—Looking for Water: April 21, 4th race, $1,039.50.

James Claude Smith Jr.—Claudee Boy: April 29, 2nd race, $1,287.

Clare Sokolsky—Fortunata Italia: April 24, 4th race, $1,138.50.

Spendthrift Farm LLC—Breviary: April 15, 4th race, $1,650.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Spingler and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Mongold—Oro Gris: April 15, 10th race, $693.

Adam A. Staple—Golden Avieator: April 15, 2nd race, $924.

James B. Steele Jr.—Hampden Lane: April 2, 5th race, $6,237/$2,079. ($8,316)

John D. Stuart—Friar Tuck: April 22, 4th race, $6,336.

Sweet Spirits Stables LLC—Fille d'Esprit: April 16, 8th race, $6,000.

Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC—Bull Shark: April 2, 7th race, $561; April 30, 2nd race, $1,386. Frightland: April 29, 2nd race, $2,574. Honor Your Mother: April 9, 8th race, $1,320. Howard's Rock: April 23, 5th race, $1,650. Smart Eulee: April 15, 3rd race, $1,039.50; April 30, 9th race, $1,039.50. Torch Carrier: April 2, 9th race, $3,366. ($12,936)

Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC and Ellen Charles—Closertotheheart: April 14, 7th race, $2,112.

Team Gaudet—Kobe's Girl: April 7, 8th race, $1,386; April 28, 9th race, $693. ($2,079)

The Elkstone Group LLC—Click to Confirm: April 1, 7th race, $7,920; April 16, 6th race, $3,000; April 29, 8th race, $1,584. Joe: April 16, 9th race, $18,000. La Casa d'Oro: April 22, 3rd race, $9,108. Plot the Dots: April 23, 9th race, $3,000. Prince of Portland: April 1, 2nd race, $792. Rationalmillennial: April 1, 3rd race, $825; April 28, 9th race, $1,386. The Addison Pour: April 30, 8th race, $9,504. ($55,119)

Thornmar Farm LLC—Canoodle: April 9, 8th race, $7,920. Coconut Cake: April 23, 8th race, $3,000. Royal Thunder: April 16, 4th race, $1,320. Startwithabang: April 16, 10th race, $1,650. The Wolfman: April 10, 5th race, $4,950. ($18,840)

Two Legends Farm—Benandjoe: April 2, 8th race, $3,432; April 22, 6th race, $1,716. ($5,148)

Walter N. Vieser II—All Threes: April 16, 4th race, $2,640. Blameitonthefun: April 3, 1st race, $1,518. Torre Branca: April 10, 3rd race, $7,722. ($11,880)

David H. Wade—Whereshetoldmetogo: April 29, 6th race, $11,088.

Maureen Wade—Pop Pop Susi: April 23, 5th race, $825.

Susan Wantz—Mosler Safe: April 9, 1st race, $2,079; April 30, 5th race, $2,079. ($4,158)

Wasabi Ventures Stables LLC and Housatonic Bloodstock LLC—Blo My Budget: April 22, 9th race, $1,320.

Konrad M. Wayson—Bear Force Won: April 16, 4th race, $7,920.

John E. Williamson III—Howsafearemycolors: April 10, 8th race, $693.

Willow Oaks Stable LLC—Under the Radar: April 21, 2nd race, $1,320.

Helena Wright—El Bochinche: April 24, 2nd race, $858. Sick Pack Sara: April 3, 2nd race, $3,366; April 28, 7th race, $1,650. ($5,874)

WWCD LLC—Mattitude: April 22, 7th race, $9,504.

Stallion bonuses

BALTIMORE BOB (No Money Down: April 15, 2nd race, $616): Robert Gerczak.

BANDBOX (Baptize the Boy: April 30, 2nd race, $1,386. Bear Force Won: April 16, 4th race, $2,640. Bull Shark: April 2, 7th race, $187; April 30, 2nd race, $462. Coconut Cake: April 23, 8th race, $1,000. Reassured: April 10, 7th race, $440. The Wolfman: April 10, 5th race, $1,650): Bandbox Syndicate—$7,765.

BARBADOS (Hampden Lane: April 2, 5th race, $2,079. Island Philo: April 15, 3rd race, $2,079): Shamrock Farm—$4,158.

BLOFELD (Blo My Budget: April 22, 9th race, $440. Charming Way: April 9, 5th race, $1,056. Crabs N Beer: April 16, 3rd race, $2,178. Goldenize: April 14, 8th race, $3,168. Vinny: April 3, 5th race, $2,079): Blofeld Syndicate—$8,921.

BOURBON COURAGE (Bedtimebourbon: April 8, 9th race, $2,574. Bourbon On the Bay: April 30, 7th race, $429. Cocktail Dreaming: April 30, 1st race, $1,012. Ink: April 1, 4th race, $726. Martharita: April 29, 3rd race, $462. Solomon's Choice: April 7, 4th race, $693. Uncommon Valor: April 1, 6th race, $550. Utterly Courageous: April 10, 3rd race, $858): Bourbon Courage Syndicate—$7,304.

BUFFUM (Buff My Boots: April 15, 9th race, $1,144. Pop Pop Susi: April 23, 5th race, $275. Shinelikeadiamond: April 21, 4th race, $2,079): Buffum Syndicate—$3,498.

DESPITE THE ODDS (Summer Odds: April 8, 7th race, $2,112; April 22, 8th race, $3,168. Unrequited Love: April 8, 8th race, $308): R. Larry Johnson—$5,280.

DIVINING ROD (Bliss This: April 2, 5th race, $693; April 22, 5th race, $346.50. Jasontakeslong: April 9, 2nd race, $759. Looking for Water: April 21, 4th race, $346.50. Rustys Gfivefifty: April 9, 2nd race, $2,277; April 22, 9th race, $2,640. Under the Radar: April 21, 2nd race, $440. Vodkatini: April 10, 3rd race, $429): Divining Rod Syndicate—$7,931.

DORTMUND (Sommer Velvet: April 24, 4th race, $759): Kaleem S. Shah.

FREEDOM CHILD (Free Square: April 21, 2nd race, $2,640. Mit Mazel: April 1, 7th race, $880. Special Freedom: April 10, 8th race, $462. Tom Terrific: April 21, 3rd race, $374): Freedom Child Syndicate—$4,356.

FRIESAN FIRE (Hot Lookin Royal: April 28, 9th race, $1,386. Mo Fire: April 24, 6th race, $528. Shady Munni: April 9, 7th race, $3,168): Friesan Fire Syndicate—$5,082.

GOLDEN LAD (Embrace the Whinny: April 1, 3rd race, $1,650. Gallant Gold: April 14, 8th race, $528. Golden Aviator: April 15, 2nd race, $308. Honor Your Mother: April 9, 8th race, $440. Howard's Rock: April 23, 5th race, $550. Monarch Beach: April 16, 10th race, $275. Oro Gris: April 15, 10th race, $231. Remembering Wilbur: April 3, 5th race, $346.50; April 22, 5th race, $2,079. Sick Pack Sara: April 3, 2nd race, $1,122; April 28, 7th race, $550. Silver's Girl: April 15, 3rd race, $693. Winston's Gold: April 3, 3rd race, $1,650): Golden Lad Syndicate—$10,422.50.

GREAT NOTION (All Threes: April 16, 4th race, $880. Closertotheheart: April 14, 7th race, $704. El Bochinche: April 24, 2nd race, $286. Fille d'Esprit: April 16, 8th race, $2,000. Grateful Bred: April 23, 6th race, $2,000. Had the Notion: April 10, 2nd race, $1,122. Heartness: April 9, 7th race, $528. Karan's Notion: April 8, 6th race, $616; April 29, 6th race, $1,232. Luna Belle: April 16, 6th race, $6,000. Mattitude: April 22, 7th race, $3,168. Smart Eulee: April 15, 3rd race, $346.50; April 30, 9th race, $346.50): Great Notion Syndicate—$19,229.

HANGOVER KID (Pounding Music: April 30, 3rd race, $2,574): Hangover Kid Syndicate.

HEAVEN'S GLORY (JPN) (Heaven's Got Fire: April 10, 6th race, $1,012): The Stallion Company.

HOLY BOSS (Boss Man J J: April 2, 2nd race, $2,079; April 22, 4th race, $704): Holy Boss Syndicate—$2,783.

IMAGINING (Biscotto d'Oro: April 8, 2nd race, $231. Callyourightback: April 8, 5th race, $231. Chica Rabiosa: April 16, 10th race, $1,650. Image Maker: April 1, 4th race, $363. Imagine the Mojo: April 2, 6th race, $616. Proper Attire: April 15, 9th race, $3,432): Imagining Syndicate—$6,523.

KOBE'S BACK (Kobe's Girl: April 7, 8th race, $462; April 28, 9th race, $231): Bonita Farm—$693.

MADEFROMLUCKY (All for Love: April 15, 2nd race, $1,848. Fortunata Italia: April 24, 4th race, $379.50): Madefromlucky Syndicate—$2,227.50.

MOSLER (Bandits Warrior: April 10, 4th race, $528. Big Daddy D R: April 3, 3rd race, $550. Blueberry Indygo: April 9, 5th race, $528. Howsafearemycolors: April 10, 8th race, $231. I'm Blushing: April 16, 5th race, $3,036. Joe Mike Jim: April 24, 4th race, $2,277. Perfect: April 30, 5th race, $2,079. Mosler Safe: April 9, 1st race, $693; April 30, 5th race, $693. Pepe and Heywood: April 14, 2nd race, $242. Rebel Victory: April 1, 9th race, $1,650. Wicked Prankster: April 28, 2nd race, $2,112): Mosler Syndicate—$14,619.

NOT FOR LOVE (Clubman: April 3, 7th race, $1,848; April 28, 5th race, $616): Not For Love Syndicate—$2,464.

ORIENTATE (He's Orientate: April 16, 3rd race, $726. Mavilus: April 15, 4th race, $1,650; April 28, 7th race, $275): Orientate Syndicate—$1,925.

OUTFLANKER (Mama G's Wish: April 14, 6th race, $880): Outflanker Syndicate.

REDEEMED (Going to the Lead: April 3, 6th race, $572; April 29, 7th race, $3,432): Redeemed Syndicate—$4,004.

SCIPION (The Last Scip: April 29, 9th race, $858): Scipion Syndicate.

SEVILLE (GER) (Gennie Highway: April 24, 7th race, $528): Seville Syndicate.

STREET MAGICIAN (Cabra Chica: April 14, 3rd race, $1,848. Cush Effect: April 30, 3rd race, $429. Demo Doctor: April 21, 5th race, $379.50. Fashionista: April 21, 4th race, $693. Street Lute: April 23, 7th race, $1,000. Whenigettoheaven: April 2, 2nd race, $693): R. Larry Johnson—$5,042.50.

SUPER NINETY NINE (Breviary: April 15, 4th race, $550. Divine Victory: April 21, 8th race, $462. Maid the Journey: April 15, 5th race, $1,716. Some Is Nine: April 28, 1st race, $462): Country Life Farm—$3,190.

THE THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY NEWSLETTER

Post Time

- News, views and insights that matter to breeders, owners and racing industry professionals - **August 2022** -

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Great Navigator 2.0 romps in debut

by Bill Finley

The minute owner Vincent Annarella of Holly Crest Farm named a New Jersey-bred by Sea Wizard Great Navigator, the horse had a lot to live up to. The name was borrowed from the first Great Navigator, who was trained by a longtime Monmouth Park stalwart, the late John Mazza, and won the 1992 Grade 1 Hopeful at Saratoga. Could this one be as good? It's not out of the question.

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Running in an open company maiden special weight race on the June 4 card at Monmouth, Great Navigator won by 5¾ lengths, covering the 4½ furlongs in 52.34 seconds.

"I don't know how good he is," winning trainer Eddie Owens Jr. said. "I know he's a nice horse. How far will he go? I don't know. He's going to grow and is only going to get bigger. After he passed those horses, the jockey pretty much eased up on him. He might be a lot better than I think he is."

The first Great Navigator was owned by Ron and Rosemary Shockley. He was by Gulch, was bred in Kentucky and was bought for $70,000 at a Fasig-Tipton Two-Year-Old sale. After breaking his maiden at Monmouth by 8 lengths, he finished second in the Tyro and third in the Sapling before registering the upset in the Hopeful at 24-1. He would go on to win three more stakes and finish second in the Fountain of Youth. He had to be euthanized after breaking down in the 1993 Jersey Shore Breeders' Cup at Atlantic City. He was later buried in the Monmouth Park infield.

Mazza passed away in May of 2020 at the age of 82. In what was one of the final chapters to his training career, he trained New Jersey-bred Horse of the Year Horologist through the first part of her career and won the Grade 3 Monmouth Oaks with the daughter of Gemologist in 2019. He also trained Sea Wizard during his brief career.

Though Annarella did not own the first Great Navigator, he was closely connected to Mazza throughout his long training career as Mazza served as the private trainer for Holly Crest for about 50 years. To name a horse in honor of the best horse Mazza ever trained was a fitting way to remember a person who was beloved on the Monmouth backstretch. When

Mazza passed away, Owens, his former assistant, took over as Holly Crest's trainer.

"John was a good fiend of mine" said Owens, a Long Branch, N.J., resident. "I was the assistant to Joe Orseno for 17, 18 years. We were in the barn next to John's and then in the same barn. He was the nicest guy. We talked almost every day and he always asked me to come to work for him. When Joe didn't send any horses to New Jersey in 2019, I took John up on his offer."

Owens said he would have preferred to run Great Navigator first time out in a Jersey-bred race, but there weren't any scheduled for 2-year-old maidens until the last week of June. Knowing his horse was ready to run, he opted for the open company maiden.

With Jairo Rendon aboard, Great Navigator, sent off at 17-1, settled into third early. He started rolling coming out of the far turn and rushed past the pacesetters in mid-stretch to win easily.

"I wouldn't have ran him in that race if I didn't think he could compete against those horses." Owens said. "I thought he would run well and I wasn't surprised that he did run well. I was surprised that he finished so strong. I was wondering if I had him tight enough. I guess I did."

It was a big day not only for Great Navigator but his sire. Sea Wizard, a Kentucky-bred by Uncle Mo, was picked out by Mazza at the 2015 OBS March 2-Year-Old Sale, where he sold for $190,000. For Mazza and owner Mac Nichol, he finished second in his debut in an Oct. 11, 2015, race at Belmont before winning a March 27, 2016, maiden at Gulfstream by 3 lengths. Mazza had big plans for the colt but he was injured and never ran again after the maiden win. He never got a chance to show what he could do on the racetrack.

Sea Wizard stands at stud at Sam Fieramosca's Colonial Farms in Colts Neck for a stud fee of $1,500. On the same day that Great Navigator won so impressively, Owens and Holly Crest sent out another first-time starter by Sea Wizard, the 2-year-old Jersey-bred filly Carats Forever. Also facing open company, she flashed some early speed before finishing third, 3¼ lengths behind the winner.

"I knew she would run well," Owens said. "What surprised me with her was that she was on the front end battling. I was hoping she would relax a little more."

Great Navigator and Carats Forever were the first two horses by Sea Wizard to make a start. It's early, but Sea Wizard showed a lot of promise during his brief career and his first two foals ran beyond expectations in their debuts. He is a sire to watch.

Owens isn't sure what is next for Great Navigator and said he will look for a stakes race for him. With few options available in the early summer months for 2-year-olds that have broken their maidens, Great Navigator's next race could come in the Grade 3 Sanford at Saratoga in mid-July. The Sanford is a prep for the Hopeful, run this year on Sept. 5, 30 years and six days after the original Great Navigator won the race.

"How good is this horse?" Owens said. "We're going to find out."

Leading New Jersey Breeders

As of races run through June 19, 2022 (17 racing days)

Breeder	*Breeder Awards*
Holly Crest Farm	$33,384.06
John Bowers Jr.	20,250.00
Hope Haskell Jones & Isabelle De Tomaso	20,000.00
Bright View Farm Inc.	18,212.50
Law Legacy Stables LLC	16,819.50
Isabelle H. De Tomaso	16,046.88
Kenneth W. Miller II	16,000.00
Dianne Boyken	12,976.56
George & Margaret Schwartz	12,000.00
Diane Barrett	11,992.19
Nicholas & Joan Sacco	11,906.25
Colonial Farms	11,692.50
Joe-Dan Farm Inc.	10,975.00
Wes Carter	10,237.50
Mildred Fleming	10,156.25
Barrister Breeding LLC	9,875.00
Hoover Thoroughbred Racing LLC	9,835.94
Reeve Schley III	8,640.63
G J Stables	8,000.00
Richard Malouf	8,000.00
Richard Zaborowski	8,000.00
Sequel Stallions & Joan Milne	8,000.00

Leading New Jersey Money Earners

As of races run through June 19, 2022 (17 racing days)

Horse	*Purse Earnings*
Last Romance	$95,400.00
Caliente Rum	88,125.00
I'm Listening	68,000.00
Mia's Crusade	65,906.25
Royal Urn	59,500.00
Bikini Baby	57,500.00
Alta Velocita	51,000.00
Our Man Luke	51,000.00
One Time Willard	50,625.00
Pogi	50,468.75
He'spuregold	50,400.00
Great Navigator	48,300.00
Oddsondustymiller	46,875.00
Lemon Creek Louie	45,000.00
Hit Me I'm Lucky	45,000.00
Perspicacious	45,000.00
I Can Run	45,000.00
Brother Chub	45,000.00
Cash Kid	44,475.00
Leo Monte	43,125.00
What's Up Mr. Z	41,250.00
Surfing	41,250.00
Joy's Pride	30,000.00

Our Man Luke springs upset in Sunny Ridge Stakes

As surprised as trainer Luis Carvajal was when Our Man Luke poked his neck in front at the wire to win the $85,000 Sunny Ridge Handicap at Monmouth Park June 12, those feelings will no doubt be heightened when he studies the replay.

EQUI-PHOTO, INC.

Not only did Our Man Luke stumble slightly at the start of the 1-mile feature for New Jersey-breds, it caused jockey Jeremy Laprida to briefly lose the irons. That left the 5-year-old gelding in last place in the seven-horse field, a position he remained in through the opening three-eighths of a mile.

But with four horses – Optic Way, Speaking, Prendimi, and Royal Urn — scrimmaging for the early lead through solid fractions on the sloppy/sealed track, Our Man Luke was actually getting a good set-up trip.

Able to slip inside coming out of the final turn, Our Man Luke drew even with Speaking in mid-stretch as the two went head to head for the final sixteenth of a mile before Carvajal's charge pulled off the upset at odds of 16-1. It was another 2¾ lengths back in third to Royal Urn.

"No, I didn't expect this," said Carvajal, who also saddled Our Man Luke's older brother Prendimi. "I have to be honest I didn't see this coming.

"I was worried about the track being off and I didn't know if he was going to like it or not. When they were going fast [:23.76 for the opening quarter and :47.05 to the half mile] and I saw him in the back moving comfortably, I said to myself 'If he is going to make a run he is going to make a run in a race like this.' But I never expected to win. It was a big surprise."

Carvajal only got Our Man Luke back in late May, after leaving him in the northeast with Gustavo Chacon as he campaigned in Florida over the winter. Owned and bred by G J Stables, Our Man Luke was claimed from Carvajal for $16,000 on Oct. 20 before the owner claimed him back a month later for $12,500.

So the surprise on Carvajal's part was from extended experience with a horse who is now 4-for-23 lifetime, with the Sunny Ridge marking his first stakes win.

"In this race, everything fell apart in a hot pace for this type of race and he was fit and ready," said Carvajal. "You always need racing luck."

Laprida had Our Man Luke in fifth place at the half, 6 lengths behind the front-running foursome, before making a move entering the final turn. That's when Optic Way gave way and Speaking surged to the lead. Laprida slipped inside to join Speaking in a two-horse battled in mid-stretch.

"I was able to keep him comfortable early," said Laprida. "At the half mile he was pulling on me. He wanted to go. I always thought I would get by [Speaking]. My horse was strong."

Our Man Luke, by Redeemed out of Cigno d'Oro, by Tour d'Or, has won four of his 23 starts for earnings of $199,384.

I'm Listening wins Smart N Classy Handicap for first stakes score

I'm Listening, the 8-year-old mare by Freud out of the multiple stakes-winning New Jersey-bred mare Way With Words, held on for a half-length victory in the $85,000 Smart N Classy Handicap for New Jersey-bred fillies and mares June 5.

Claimed by Magic Stable for $15,000 for trainer Claudio Gonzalez on Aug. 13, 2021, I'm Listening recorded the first stakes victory of her 38-race career. Mia's Crusade finished in second and Beatubyachubinose was third.

"We claimed her first because she is a Jersey-bred and there are a lot

EQUI-PHOTO, INC.

of opportunities for Jersey-breds at Monmouth Park, but also because I saw she had back class," said Gonzalez. "We got her started at Gulfstream [this year] knowing these Monmouth Park Jersey-bred races were coming up.

"In her last race [a second-place finish in the Spruce Fir for Jersey-breds May 14] I knew 6 furlongs was a little short for her but she is so sharp now I decided to run her there. She proved she is doing well with that race [finishing second]. This was the perfect race for her. She loves two turns and she proved that today."

Ridden by Angel A. Rodriguez, I'm Listening sat just off the flanks of the early duel between Mia's Crusade and Ask Around, with the opening quarter going in :23.88 and the half reached in :47.64.

Rodriguez nudged I'm Listening after the front-running Mia's Crusade entering the final turn and she sprinted to a quick advantage. Mia's Crusade proved stubborn, but I'm Listening eventually surged past her late in the stretch, with Beatubyachubinose flying home late on the outside.

"I used her early to get in good position, especially since I was on the outside [post nine] and I needed to get over fast," said Rodriguez. "Claudio Gonzalez told me to keep her close to the leaders and then at the three-eighths to go. She took the lead quickly when I asked her. I liked her for this race after riding her last race. I knew she was sharp. They told me she likes two turns much better than sprinting. That's why I was confident coming into this race."

I'm Listening has won eight of 38 career starts with earnings of $307,604.

THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY

Membership Application

Member Information

NAME _____ SS#/FEDERAL I.D.# _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ COUNTY _____

TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Membership Categories

☐ Breeder — A breeder member shall be a person who owns the required interest in a broodmare or registered stallion domiciled in New Jersey; who submits an application for membership, and pays the membership dues. A breeder member shall have voting rights.

☐ Owner — An owner member shall be a person who owns a registered New Jersey- bred; who submits an application for membership, and pays the membership dues. An owner member will not have voting rights.

☐ Associate — An associate member is a person who is interested in owning, breeding, or racing horses in the State of New Jersey or in fostering economic activity through the breeding, ownership and/or racing of horses in the State of New Jersey. An associate member will not have voting rights.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Membership Dues

A check or money order for $65.00 must accompany this form. Spouses are encouraged to join the **TBANJ** under joint membership status. This fee would total $100.00 per couple. Each spouse must fill out a separate form to accompany the payment. Membership will be effective upon receipt and will be in force each calendar year and must be renewed annually.

THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY
265 Hwy 36
Suite 1R
W. Long Branch, NJ 07764
(732) 542-8880
email: njbreds@gmail.com

North Carolina

THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION

August 2022

President's message

Wow! So many winners this month along with so many others that hit the board. What an incredible way to start the summer! Congratulations go to Jim, Caroline, William, Nancy, Clint, Denise and Beth for their achievements. Hopefully, the months to come will prove as prosperous.

I am grateful to Art Bauer for sharing the photo and updates on his NC-bred yearling fillies. The filly on the left is sired by Friend Or Foe out of She's Stylish, by Posse. The filly on the right is by Klimt out of Girl On a Mission, by Noble Mission (GB). They are located at Bauerfarm here in North Carolina. Art reports that one of the fillies will train to race. The broodmares are in foal again. Girl On a Mission is expecting a Madefromlucky foal and She's Stylish is expecting one from Irish War Cry. Good luck to Art with his breeding and racing operations.

–Rebecca

NC yearlings bred by Art Bauer.

Racing Review

Cayenne Creek (Miss Remembered—Hot Creek Risin', by Bring the Heat) won May 27 at Charles Town for breeders Dr. and Mrs. Clint Lowry. The 4-year-old chestnut gelding ran 7 furlongs on a sloppy sealed track in 1:27.48, leading from the start to score by a half length.

Gulfstream Way (Gemologist—Clever Cookie, by Smart Strike) won May 29 at Churchill Downs for breeder/owner Denise Walsh. The 4-year-old bay gelding ran 7 furlongs 1:22.10 on a fast track. He set the pace early and drew away finishing 3¼ lengths in front.

Miss Grandstander (Fiber Sonde—Athena Grand, by Civilisation) won June 3 at Charles Town for breeders Dr. and Mrs. Clint Lowry. The 5-year-old dark bay or brown mare ran 4½ furlongs in :53.28 on a fast track

Flat Out Flying (Flat Out—She'sa Tough Tiger, by Tiger Ridge) won June 8 at Delaware Park for breeders Beth Muirhead and Frank Coniglio. The 6-year-old chestnut gelding ran 1 mile on a fast track in 1:37.70. He started near the far back on the pack, running inside, swung out to the three-path into the stretch and accelerated past the leader to win by 2 lengths.

Mirth 'n Merriment (Connect—Child Please, by War Front) won at Presque Isle Downs June 16 for owner Carolina Cooper. The 3-year-old dark bay or brown filly ran 1 1/16 miles on a fast all-weather track. The filly led the pace from start to finish, holding off a threat in the stretch to win by a nose.

Secret Swirl (Secret Circle—Hot Creek Risin', by Bring the Heat) won at Charles Town June 17 for breeders/owners Dr. and Mrs. Clint Lowery. The 4-year-old bay gelding ran 6½ furlongs in 1:21.99 on a fast track. Despite being bumped at the start and running four-wide, the gelding started a challenge near the seventh-sixteenths pole, progressing around the turn, dug in to gain the lead mid-stretch, hung on to win by 1½ lengths.

Venenosa (Brody's Cause—Neytiri, by Trajectory) won at Woodbine June 17 for breeder and owner William Thompson, Jr. The 3-year-old chestnut filly ran 1 1/16 miles on a firm, turf track in 1:43.10. The filly ran near the back, swung out wide in the stretch, surged to the front and drew off to win by 10¼ lengths.

Gulfstream Way (Gemologist—Clever Cookie, by Smart Strike) won at Churchill Downs June 19 for breeder Denise Walsh, giving her back-to-back wins. The 4-year-old bay gelding ran 6 furlongs on a good track in 1:09.60. Pressing the pace two wide, he made a bid for the lead at the top of the stretch, dueled and gained the lead to win by 3½ lengths.

North Carolina Thoroughbred Association
(910) 261-7595
www.ncthoroughbred.com
ncthoroughbred@gmail.com
P.O. Box 76, Fayetteville, NC 28302

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Chris Stiller

Hitting the Board

May 25 – June 24

Date	Horse	Track	NCTA Connection	RESULTS
25-May	My Dixie Lass	Parx Racing	Bred & owned by Jim Chandley	2nd
25-May	Mirth 'n Merriment	Presque Isle Down	Owned by Caroline Cooper	2nd
26-May	Venenosa	Woodbine	Bred & owned by William Thompson	2nd
27-May	Cayenne Creek	Charles Town	Bred by Clint Lowry	WINNER!
28-May	Cairo Consort	Woodbine	Bred by Bill Thompson - Maple Lane Farm	3rd
29-May	Honorifique	Churchill Downs	Bred by Nancy Shuford	3rd
29-May	Gulfstream Way	Churchill Downs	Bred & owned by Denise Walsh	WINNER!
30-May	Condemnation	Thistledown	Owned by Caroline Cooper	2nd
2-Jun	Admonish	Woodbine	Bred & owned by William Thompson	3rd
2-Jun	Venenosa	Woodbine	Bred & owned by William Thompson	2nd
3-Jun	Miss Grandstander	Charles Town	Bred by Clint Lowry	WINNER!
6-Jun	Flat Out Flying	Delaware Park	Bred by Beth Muirhead & Frank Coniglio	WINNER!
11-Jun	Guileful	Woodbine	Bred & owned by William Thompson	2nd
16-Jun	Mirth 'n Merriment	Presque Isle Down	Owned by Caroline Cooper	WINNER!
17-Jun	Secret Swirl	Charles Town	Bred & owned by Clint Lowry	WINNER!
17-Jun	Venenosa	Woodbine	Bred & owned by William Thompson	WINNER!
19-Jun	Gulfstream Way	Churchill Downs	Bred by Denise Walsh	WINNER!
24-Jun	Duke of Cork	Charles Town	Bred & owned by Clint Lowry	2nd

North Carolina Thoroughbred Association

2022 MEMBERSHIP FORM

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❒Jr. MEMBER - AGE 25 UNDER @ -0 ☐FARM @ $80.00 ☐SPONSOR @ $140.00 ☐CORPORATE SPONSOR @ $250.00

❒INDIVIDUAL @ $55.00

❒NON-PROFIT HORSE ASSOCIATIONS @ $20.00(covers cost of magazines)

Membership includes subscriptions to Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred Magazine

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Involvement in Thoroughbred Industry
(Please check any or all pertaining to you)

❒Breeder	❒Racing	❒ Steeplechase	❒Boarding	❒Foaling
❒Lay-ups	❒Race Training	❒Racing Fan	❒Showing	❒Show Training
❒Hunter/Jumper	❒Eventing	❒Dressage	❒Pleasure	❒Other_____

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: **N.C.T.A.**
MAIL WITH COMPLETED APPLICATION TO: **Rebecca Montaldo, NCTA, P.O. Box 76., Fayetteville NC 28302**

Thank you for your support.

PENNSYLVANIA HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

PA Thoroughbred NEWSLETTER

August 2022
pabred.com

PA-BRED REMINDERS

- **Early registration:** Within 365 days of foaling
- **Yearling registration:** Dec. 31 of yearling year
- **Stallion registration:** Feb. 15 of year breeding
- **Broodmare domicile:** Dec. 1 or 14 days after a public sale or entering state if being bred back to PA-sire

VISIT PABRED.COM

- **Racing and breeding news**
- **PA-Bred entries/results**
- **Rules, regulations, forms**

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Pennsylvania Stallion Series launches in 2022

by Averie Levanti

For the first time this year, the Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association (PHBA) will be debuting its new Pennsylvania Stallion Series for Pennsylvania-sired, Pennsylvania-bred 2-year-olds. Four races, run in sets of two, will initially be run this year, with the goal to expand to a total of six races in 2023.

Premiering at Pennsylvania's Day at the Races Aug. 22 at Parx Racing are the $100,000 Whistle Pig Stakes (2yo) and $100,000 Miss Blue Tye Dye Stakes (2yo fillies), to be run at 5½ furlongs on the main track. To conclude this year's series, the $200,000 Prince Lucky Stakes (2yo) and $200,000 Imply Stakes (2yo fillies) at 6½ furlongs will grace the Sept. 24 Pennsylvania Derby Day card.

To support the launch in its first year, there was no series-specific nomination phase. Instead, early nominations via the racing office are free for each race. Late nominations will still sport the usual $500 late nomination fee. With the early nomination phase closing July 11 for the initial set of races, a total of 71 2-year-olds passed through the nomination box. Forty nominated to the Whistle Pig, while 31 are listed for the Miss Blue Tye Dye. Late nominations for these contests will close on Aug. 2, with supplemental nominations of $1,500 available through entry.

Early nominations for the second set of races will close Tuesday, Sept. 6. Next year's expanded series will feature an overall series nomination fee. Details concerning next year's races will be announced shortly.

In addition to the 40 percent breeder award bonus for PA-sired PA-breds, there will be a $50,000 trainer bonus awarded to the leading trainer across the four races. Horses will accumulate points when finishing first, second or third in each of the races. The top three trainers with the most points will be awarded $25,000, $15,000, and $10,000 respectively. Any ties will be split.

PHBA's Executive Secretary Brian Sanfratello had the chance to speak with some of the local Parx Racing trainers about the Pennsylvania Stallion Series.

"I think it's a great opportunity to promote the Pennsylvania stallions," said trainer Ed Coletti Jr. "It's going to be a good step in the right direction to help our program.

"Most of my [clients] breed in Pennsylvania, and they do go to Pennsylvania stallions, so I do think we're going to have a lot of fun between this year and next year getting the 2-year-olds ready for those races. It gives even more incentive to go to the sales and look for PA stallions. It's great."

Scott Lake added, "I have a few guys like Joe Besecker who are always looking for PA-breds and PA-sires. [Joe] Besecker just bought an Uptowncharlybrown filly that we actually really like. She's doing really well."

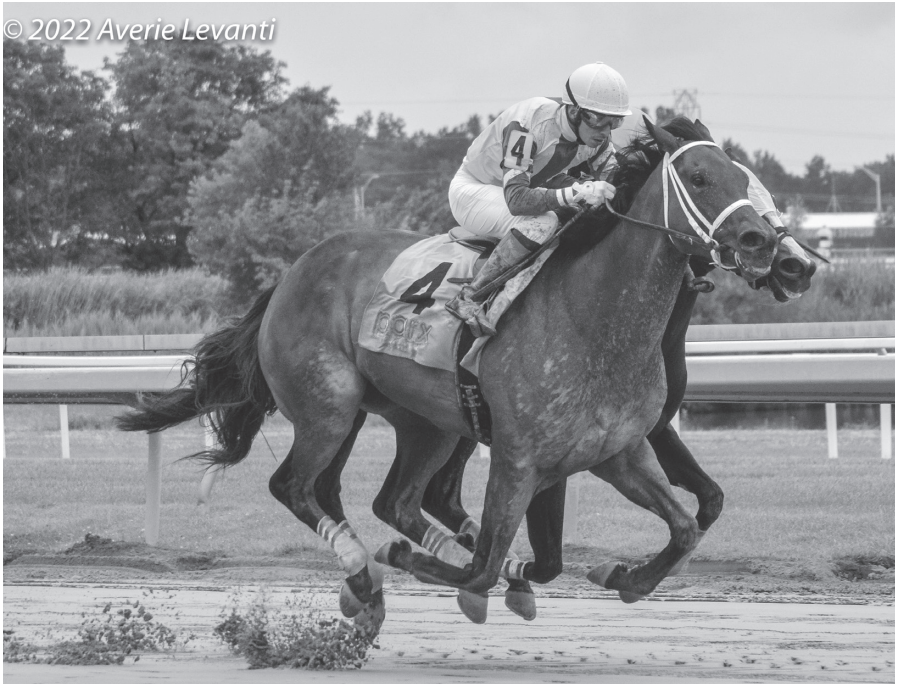
"I have a couple owners who are pretty excited [about the series]," said trainer John Servis. "We have a couple homebreds that are PA-sired, and we actually bought one or two at the sale with the influence on us that we'll get to go to these races. It's even better [that the series will expand to six races next year]."

"We're really excited about it," said Kate Demasi. "Can't wait to hopefully have someone run in it too. We've got a couple horses that we're hoping will be ready in time, you've got to have all the starts in line, but I think it's a great idea, it's a great program, really excited to get these stallions showcased out there. Really looking forward to it."

The PHBA would like to thank Parx Director of Racing David Osojnak for supporting the Pennsylvania Stallion Series by featuring the return of Parx's early spring 2-furlong dashes for 2-year-olds. This has provided the opportunity for our horses to better prepare for the Stallion Series.

For any other information regarding the Pennsylvania Stallion Series, please contact PHBA's office at 610-444-1050, or visit pabred.com/2-year-old-pa-sired-pa-bred-stallion-series/.

Return of the Champ



The 2021 PA-Bred Horse of the Year Chub Wagon made her long-anticipated 2022 debut a winning one in the $100,000 Power by Far Stakes at Parx Racing on June 27. Less than three weeks later she recorded her 12th victory in 13 career starts in Laurel Park's $100,000 Alma North Stakes, defeating fellow PA-Bred Kaylasaurus by 3 lengths.

A few words from the Executive Secretary

With the 2022 breeding season at an end, I would like to thank all our breeders for their dedication to the program. There isn't a better time to be breeding and racing in Pennsylvania. Breeder Awards up to 50%, Owner Bonuses up to 40%, almost 4 million in Restricted Stakes which includes the brand new 2yo PA-Sired PA-Bred Stallion Series with $650,000 in purses and trainer bonuses in 2022 and $950,000 in 2023 and over 250 Restricted Races.

Pa Day at the Races will be held on Aug. 22 at PARX. Over $1,000,000 in purses, a fantastic lunch and great gifts. You should have received invitations by email blast and letters will go out shortly. The NTRA was nice enough to donate another John Deere Gator which will be raffled off again this year.

Our 2yo Stakes will begin on PA Day at the Races and run through the balance of 2022 with purses amounting to $1,350,000! Wow! Who wouldn't want a PA-Bred 2yo! Don't get left out of next year's extravaganza. Pick up your PA-Bred at the upcoming yearling sales.

PA is the only place to Breed and Race! You ain't seen nothing yet! Go PA!!

$50,000
in Trainer Bonuses
Awarded to trainers of the top 3 point-earning horses in the 4-race series. Details at PaBred.com

THE PENNSYLVANIA ADVANTAGE

Truly a WIN-WIN-WIN situation!

2022 2YO PA-SIRED PA-BRED ANNUAL STALLION SERIES

$600,000 in purses: 4 stakes, 2 each for 2yo's & 2yo fillies
$900,000 for 2023: 6 stakes, 3 each for 2yo's & 2yo fillies

STALLION FARMS: WIN!

- Attracts more broodmares to Pennsylvania
- Blacktype for Pennsylvania stallions
- More business
- Higher stud fees

BREEDERS: WIN!

- PA-sired PA-bred foals eligible to series
- Blacktype for PA broodmares
- Increased value for PA broodmares
- Higher prices at auctions & private sales

BUYERS: WIN!

- PA-sired PA-bred horses more desirable
- Quicker return on investment
- Blacktype for PA-sired PA-bred horses
- Increased value on purchases

It really does pay to breed & race in Pennsylvania

For more information go to pabred.com or call
Brian Sanfratello at 610.444.1050

You're Invited!

PENNSYLVANIA's DAY at the RACES

MONDAY, AUGUST 22ND

THE PA HORSE BREEDERS

INVITES OUR 2022 MEMBERS & GUESTS TO JOIN US
AT PARX FOR A FULL DAY OF #PABRED RACING

FREE DAY AT THE RACES

INCLUDES LUNCH,
GIVEAWAYS & RAFFLES
Must be a registered 2022 member

FEATURING SEVEN
$100,000 STAKES RACES
INCLUDING OUR FIRST TWO
$100,000 TWO-YEAR-OLD STALLION SERIES RACES
$1 MILLION IN PURSES

All members and guests must RSVP by Wednesday, August 17th to Averie Levanti at 610.444.1050, ext. 1 or Alevanti@pabred.com. Maximum 5 guests per member.

Parx Racing 3rd floor grandstand.
Registration begins at 12:00 p.m.

PENNSYLVANIA
HORSE BREEDERS
ASSOCIATION

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SCTOBA

South Carolina

Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2022

Racing Across the Nation

From June 3 through June 14, eight graduates of South Carolina farms and training centers reached the winner's circle following stakes races.

Maldives Model and Nimitz Class, graduates of Randy and Kala's Rentz Farm Training Center in Erhardt, won stakes at Penn National June 3. **Maldives Model** broke on top and never looked back in the Lyphard, crossing the finish line 1½ lengths in front.

Nimitz Class had an eventful trip in the Danzig. Towards the back of the pack early on, he angled to the outside, encountered traffic before moving up between horses and in a sustained drive, got up to win by three-quarters of a length. Nimitz Class has recorded four wins in six lifetime starts.

On June 5, **I'm Listening** proved best in the Smart N Classy Handicap at Monmouth Park. This former student of Donna Freyer at her Custom Care Equine operation in Camden, won her first stakes in her 38th career start. Mid-pack early on, I'm Listening took the lead in upper stretch and showed heart and determination to win by a half-length. This 8-year-old mare has earned $307,604 during her career.

On the same day, **Dreaming of Drew** captured her third stakes win in the Belle Mahone Stakes at Woodbine. She quickly took the lead after the start and maintained her advantage throughout, coasting to a 2¾-length victory. This filly went through the breaking process at the Travis Durr Training Center in St. Matthews. In eight career starts, Dreaming of Drew has four wins, two seconds and a third with earnings of $332,417.

Miss Leslie recorded her second stakes win in a row when proving best in the Obeah Stakes at Delaware Park June 8. Also a graduate of the Travis Durr Training Center, Miss Leslie trailed the field for the opening half-mile. Launching her bid turning for home, Miss Leslie was seven-wide while passing foes and reached the finish line a half-length in front. This was Miss Leslie's sixth career stakes win, and she has earned $565,650.

From the desk of. . .

--- On June 3, Conagher, who was prepared for racing at the McCutchen Training Center in Kingstree, won at Churchill Downs. His final time was less than a fifth of a second off the track record for 7 furlongs set by champion Groupie Doll in 2012.

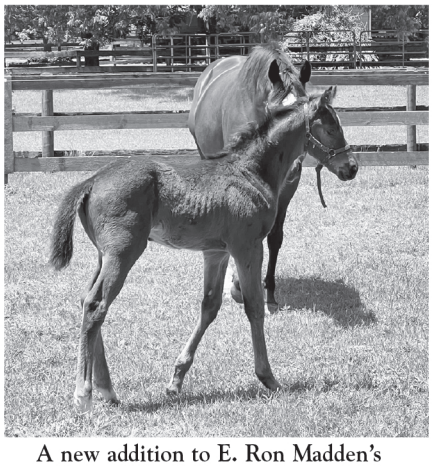
--- The Travis Durr Training Center was represented by four 2-year-olds who won first-time out between May 31 and June 15. Wild Army Brat (May 31) broke her maiden at Parx Racing. Andiamo a Firenze (June 3) won at Belmont and on the next day, Great Navigator won at Monmouth. On June 15, Puttheblameonme scored in his debut at Parx Racing.

--- Rentz FarmTraining Center was represented with a first-time out 2-year-old winner at Parx Racing May 23 when Little J P reached the finish line first.

--- South Carolina's leading sire, Straight Talking, had progeny win races in May and June in Maryland. Swayin to and Fro was a three-time winner at Pimlico and Laurel. Harper's Do also was at winner at Laurel. Both were bred by "Goree" Smith who stood Straight Talking at his Elloree Training Center.

--- Another one of Smith's stallions who stands there is Done Talking, the sire of Dixie Drawl, a winner at Laurel in June. Dixie Drawl was also bred by Smith.

--- On June 3-5, The New Vocations–All Thoroughbred Charity Horse Show was held at Highfields Event Center in Aiken. New Vocations is the nation's oldest and largest racehorse adoption program.



A new addition to E. Ron Madden's stable–a filly by Hopportunity out of Ying Yue, by Jump Start, foaled in Aiken.

Hungarian Princess, who learned her early lessons at Franklin "Goree" Smith's Elloree Training Center, captured her fourth stakes victory in the Shelby County Stakes June 8. All of her stakes wins have been at Horseshoe Indianapolis. While racing five wide, Hungarian Princess sat right behind the leaders before taking over the lead approaching the eighth-pole. She made it to the wire a length in front of the rest of the field. She has eight wins, four seconds and a third in 15 career starts. Hungarian Princess has accumulated earnings totaling $383,879.

Leader of the Band gained her second stakes victory winning the Lady's Secret at Monmouth Park June 11. This filly came up through the Rentz Farm Training Center program. She stalked the leaders before coming three wide. Leader of the Band battled the length of the stretch and proved best by a head.

Eons is now a four-time stakes winner capturing the Bensalem Match Series Stakes at Parx Racing on June 14. While trailing the field early, Eons moved outside to lead the field into the stretch and then would not be denied winning by a nose. Eons was prepared for his racing career by Brad Stauffer and Ron Stevens in Aiken. The parents of his owner, Mark Grier, were longtime residents of Aiken. During his career, Eons has raced over 11 different racetracks!

SOUTH CAROLINA-TRAINED WINNERS

Horse	*Training Center*	*Date*	*Track*	*Type of Race*
Swingin to and Fro	Elloree Training Center	6/18/22	Laurel Park	Starter Allowance
Petition Prayer	Elloree Training Center	6/18/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
Code Duello	Elloree Training Center	6/18/22	Los Alamitos	Allowance
Samira	Aiken - Cary Frommer	6/17/22	Prairie Meadows	Allowance
Olympic Romp	Elloree Training Center	6/17/22	Monmouth Park	Allowance
That's Right	James Layden	6/17/22	Monmouth Park	Allowance
Made to Hustle	Rentz Training Center	6/17/22	Penn National	Starter Allowance
Enchant Me	Travis Durr Training Center	6/16/22	Woodbine	Maiden Special Weight
Beverly Park	McCutchen Training Center	6/16/22	Churchill Downs	Allowance
Nail Polish	Rentz Training Center	6/16/22	Penn National	Allowance
Puttheblameonme	Travis Durr Training Center	6/15/22	Parx Racing	Maiden Special Weight
Flurry of Roses	Travis Durr Training Center	6/15/22	Finger Lakes	Maiden Special Weight
Railsplitter	Kirkwood Stables	6/14/22	Assinoba Downs	Allowance
EONS	Aiken - Legacy Stable	6/14/22	Parx Racing	Bensalem S
Gynfyre Gal	Rentz Training Center	6/14/22	Parx Racing	Maiden Special Weight
Dr Blarney	Elloree Tng Ctr/Travis Durr Tng Ctr	6/13/22	Finger Lakes	Allowance
Honey Girl	Travis Durr Training Center	6/13/22	Finger Lakes	Maiden Special Weight
Bagboss	Travis Durr Training Center	6/12/22	Churchill Downs	Allowance
Green Fleet	Elloree Training Center	6/12/22	Woodbine	Allowance
Last Romance	Travis Durr Training Center	6/11/22	Monmouth Park	Allowance
Memory Bouquet	Rentz Farm Training Center	6/11/22	Penn National	Allowance
LEADER OF THE BAND	Rentz Farm Training Center	6/11/22	Monmouth Park	Lady's Secret S
Defend	Travis Durr Training Center	6/8/22	Delaware Park	Allowance
MISS LESLIE	Travis Durr Training Center	6/8/22	Delaware Park	Obeah S
HUNGARIAN PRINCESS	Elloree Training Center	6/8/22	Horseshoe Indianapolis	Shelby County S
Clifden Punch	Rentz Farm Training Center	6/8/22	Finger Lakes	Allowance
Tudox Roadster	Rentz Farm Training Center	6/7/22	Presque Isle	Allowance
Dixie Drawl	Elloree Training Center	6/5/22	Laurel Park	Starter Allowance
I'M LISTENING	Custom Care - D. Freyer	6/5/22	Monmouth Park	Smart N Cassy H
DREAMING OF DREW	Travis Durr Training Center	6/5/22	Woodbine	Belle Mahone S
Silent Malice	Travis Durr Training Center	6/5/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
Edie Meeny Miny Mo	Aiken - Cary Frommer	6/5/22	Monmouth Park	Allowance
Swayin to and Fro	Elloree Training Center	6/5/22	Laurel Park	Starter Allowance
Plot the Dots	Custom Care - D. Freyer	6/4/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
Great Navigator	Travis Durr Training Center	6/4/22	Monmouth Park	Maiden Special Weight
Adiamo a Firenze	Travis Durr Training Center	6/3/22	Belmont Park	Maiden Special Weight
Fully Connected	Travis Durr Training Center	6/3/22	Charles Town	Allowance
Conagher	McCutchen Training Center	6/3/22	Churchill Downs	Allowance
My My Girl	Elloree Training Center	6/3/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
Code Duello	Elloree Training Center	6/3/22	Santa Anita	Starter Allowance
MALDIVES MODEL	Rentz Farm Training Center	6/3/22	Penn National	Lyphard S
NIMITZ CLASS	Rentz Farm Training Center	6/3/22	Penn National	Danzig S
Jay Jay Dee	Rentz Farm Training Center	6/3/22	Charles Town	Starter Allowance
Emberly	C. Frommer/R. Hammond	6/2/22	Charles Town	Maiden Special Weight
Beverly Park	McCutchenTraining Center	6/2/22	Belterra Park	Starter Allowance
Kobe B	Elloree Training Center	6/1/22	Parx Racing	Starter Allowance
Chelsea Wall	Rentz Farm Training Center	6/1/22	Parx Racing	Starter Allowance
Jo Jo Hans	Rentz Farm Training Center	6/1/22	Presque Isle	Allowance
Nail Polish	Rentz Farm Training Center	6/1/22	Penn National	Maiden Special Weight
Wild Army Brat	Travis Durr Training Center	5/31/22	Parx Racing	Maiden Special Weight
Brother Jeremiah	Arch Kingsley	5/31/22	Finger Lakes	Maiden Special Weight
Moped Dennis	Travis Durr Training Center	5/31/22	Finger Lakes	Maiden Special Weight
Musk	Elloree Training Center	5/31/22	Parx Racing	Allowance
Silken Dollar	Travis Durr Training Center	5/30/22	Belmont Park	Maiden Special Weight
First Round Pick	Travis Durr Training Center	5/29/22	Woodbine	Maiden Special Weight
Regular Guy	Elloree Training Center	5/28/22	Hawthorne	Allowance
Belews Gold	Travis Durr Training Center	5/27/22	Lone Star Park	Allowance
Runaway Monet	Poplar Place/C. Frommer	5/27/22	Charles Town	Allowance
Lord Winsalot	Rentz Farm Training Center	5/27/22	Penn National	Allowance
Hold the Line	McCutchen Training Center	5/26/22	Belterra Park	Maiden Special Weight
No Easy Answer	Rentz Farm Training Center	5/26/22	Penn National	Maiden Special Weight
Center Court Champ	Travis Durr Training Center	5/25/22	Parx Racing	Starter Allowance
Midnight Obsession	Rentz Farm Training Center	5/25/22	Parx Racing	Allowance
Mike J	Travis Durr Training Center	5/24/22	Louisiana Downs	Allowance
Mulling	McCutchen Training Center	5/24/22	Belterra Park	Maiden Special Weight
Far Mo Power	Rentz Farm Training Center	5/24/22	Parx Racing	Allowance
Onerollofthedice	Custom Care - D. Freyer	5/23/22	Louisiana Downs	Allowance
Bossman Jones	Rentz Farm Training Center	5/23/22	Parx Racing	Maiden Special Weight
Little J P	Rentz Farm Training Center	5/23/22	Parx Racing	Maiden Special Weight
Princess Phone	McCutchen Training Center	5/22/22	Lone Star Park	Allowance
Honorably	Custom Care - D. Freyer	5/21/22	Churchill Downs	Maiden Special Weight
Amatteroftime	Travis Durr Training Center	5/21/22	Parx Racing	Allowance

VIRGINIA

COLONIAL DOWNS KICKS OFF SUMMER RACING SEASON WITH RECORD OPENING DAY HANDLE, FOUR-PACK OF VIRGINIA-BRED STAKES

Todd Pletcher's Largent captured the Edward P. Evans Stakes July 11 at Colonial Downs. (Coady Photography))

Colonial Downs kicked off its "More Racing, More Money, More Fun" summer racing season in grand fashion July 11, with a large crowd on hand, a record opening day handle and "Chamber of Commerce"-type weather.

A crowd of 3,077 --- up 23% from last year's opener --- saw 11 races, ten of which were over the Secretariat Turf Course. Two non-betting steeplechase races kicked off the afternoon festivities followed by nine flat races including a four-pack of $125,000 turf stakes races for Virginia-bred/sired horses. Total handle of $3,029,205 was an all-time record for opening day, up 13% from last year's $2.6 million.

"It's great to see opening day results signal a successful race meet to come," said John Marshall, Executive Vice-President of Operations. "We thank our horsemen for committing to Colonial, our team for executing on service and the public for believing in the entertainment and wagering value of Colonial Downs. These results do not come easy in times like these and are driven by a genuine team effort. If you liked what you saw today, stay tuned for more to come!"

Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners and Twin Creeks Racing Stables' Largent connected for the second time in the Edward P. Evans Stakes, capturing the '22 edition by one-half length over fast closing Alex Joon. The 6-year-old Into Mischief gelding, who entered the race with $504,320 in earnings, won the 2020 Evans in his only other New Kent start. The winner was bred by Lazy Lane Farms.

Paco Lopez led the effort up top for Hall of Fame trainer Todd Pletcher in the one-mile turf event. Largent raced second behind Passion Play --- winner of the '21 Evans --- until midway through the second turn when he made his move. The winner took control by 2 1/2 lengths at the top of the stretch then crossed in 1:35.81 to record his seventh career win from 14 starts.

Runner-up Alex Joon was bred by Morgan's Ford Farm while third place finisher Kendama was bred by Audley Farm Equine.

D. Hatman Thoroughbreds and Kingdom Bloodstock's Determined Kingdom powered home by 5 1/2 lengths in the Punch Line Stakes with Trevor McCarthy aboard. The 3-year-old Animal Kingdom gelding, winner of last year's Jamestown Stakes at Colonial,

was fresh off an allowance victory at Laurel and is now 3-for-3 over Colonial's Secretariat Turf Course. The winner was bred by Audley Equine.

2019 Jamestown Stakes winner Embolden entered the Punch Line 2-for-2 at Colonial but finished second for trainer Michael Trombetta. The runner-up was bred by Nancy Terhune and Ernest Frohboese. 2021 Punch Line winner Boldor, a Steve Asmussen trainee, finished third. The 6-year-old Munnings gelding was bred by Jill Gordon-Moore and Carlos Moore.

Lothenbach Stables' Mo Clare's authored a gate-to-wire performance in the 1 1/16 miles Brookmeade Stakes for fillies and mares. The 5-year-old Uncle Mo mare crossed in 1:43.22 with Jareth Loveberry in the irons, 1 1/2 lengths ahead of '21 Brookmeade winner Urban Fairytale. Winning trainer Chris Block's 30-horse stable is competing in Virginia for the first time. Mo Clare's was bred by Jim Fitzgerald and Katie Fitzgerald.

Runner-up Urban Fairytale is an Ian Wilkes trainee that was bred by Audley Farm Equine. James Arrison and Althea Richards' Foretell finished third in her fourth career start. The 3-year-old Fed Biz filly is trained by Madison Meyers and was bred by Richards.

Sam English II's Chambeau had a most impressive career debut with a gate-to-wire effort in the 5 1/2-furlong $125,000 M. Tyson Gilpin Stakes. Led by Colonial's all-time leading rider Horacio Karamanos, the 5-year-old daughter of Japan-bred Karakontie crossed 3 1/4 lengths the best in 1:03.64. The winner was is trained by Anthony Aguirre, Jr.

Susan Cooney's Carolina Sun, fresh off a maiden victory at Pimlico, finished second with Jevian Toldeo up. Cooney owns, trains and bred the Summer Front filly. Eagle Point Farm's Tea In China took third with Kevin Gomez riding. A runner-up in the '20 Gilpin,

2021 Jamestown Stakes winner Determined Kingdom was 5 1/2 lengths the best in the Punch Line Stakes (Coady Photography)

Mo Clare's wins the Brookmeade Stakes with a gate-to-wire effort. (Coady Photography)

Karen Godsey's 6-year-old Bandbox mare was making her 16th career start.

A record payout highlighted opening day festivities. Luca Drew the Ace, sent off at 51-1, prevailed in the seventh race. The 5-year-old Field Commission gelding returned $105.20 and triggered a $1 trifecta payout of $52,170 for one fan that had the 10-1-3 combination.

Chambeau wired the field in her career bow in the M. Tyson Gilpin Stakes (Coady Photography)

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West Virginia
THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
Newsletter August 2022

Exceeding Expectations

By Jeff Gileas

Veteran athletes generally lose the performance versus age race, however conditioner Crystal Pickett's Hypothesis seems to defy the odds, through better training and recovery practices.

Saturday, June 11, the 5-year-old gelding, who hadn't raced since December, faced a field dotted with fellow West Virginia alumni, including runnerup Penguin Power, Youthinkthatsfunny and Nico, and though mildly reluctant to leave his rivals late, triumphed with flair in the It's Only Money Stakes. The son of Algorithms out of Ideal Thoughts races for owner Jill Daniel and was bred by Francis W. Daniel III.

The key question swirling in the minds of handicappers/patrons for the 2022 debut of last year's Dash champion was whether he could regain the brilliant form that led to his sprint coronation?

The answer came in 51.22 seconds, and produced a career best Beyer speed number of 104. Lapped on Penguin Power from the outset, Hypothesis, under jockey Jose Montano, seized a narrow advantage as the two runners blazed a half mile in :44.73, and in victory preserved his current number one position, in a line of gifted sprinters for the duo of Daniel and Pickett.

The world of the successful Thoroughbred is often delicate in nature; thus to find individuals maintaining a high level of consistency, while defying the fourth dimension is honorable.

According to Dr. "Chip" Daniel III, Algorithms, sire of Hypothesis, was an extremely talented horse who only raced three times. His crowning achievement was winning the Grade 3 Holy Bull Stakes, while earning an 111 speed figure.

The Daniel family tree of broodmares is tightly bundled and highly productive.

I caught Dr. Daniel in his office, catching up on some paperwork, and he provided a glimpse into his broodmare portfolio.

"A simple way to chart Hypothesis' family line starts with his mother's half-sister, Goldendeoro. She produced Original Gold, who won back-to-back editions of the much sought after Cavada Stakes, and earned just shy of $375,000. Her son, Gold Standard, won multiple local stakes (Milliard Harrell Memorial and West Virginia Lottery Breeders Classic) amassing over $237,000. Original Gold also is the mother of Golden Debutante, and her offspring, Golden Key ($186,000), is one of the fastest horses in training at Charles Town for owner/trainer Ronney Brown. My father bred Holly's Promise to Not For Love and that resulting match was Ideal Thoughts ($217,000). Holly's Promise also fared well with a Mutakddim colt named Primary Account ($194,000). I bred Ideal Thoughts to Algorithms, and your pedigree query for the day is complete, with a hint of how intertwined my horse and human relationships are."

Dr. Daniel confirmed that his stable star has physically been a man among boys since his 2-year-old campaign.

Said Daniel: "After breaking his maiden at Charles Town, Crystal and I decided to test Hypothesis on the turf at Colonial Downs. The $100,000 Rosie's Stake turned out to be an exceptional performance for him." Reluctant to load and breaking slowly, Hypothesis finished fourth to a first-time starter of Wesley Ward's named Four Wheel Drive. That horse would go on to capture the Grade 3 Futurity Stakes at Belmont Park and the Grade 2 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint at Santa Anita.

◆

I hope my assessment of Silky Serena's winning effort

in the Fancy Buckles Stakes doesn't provoke comments of blasphemy. Though still early in the game to predict, the lightly-raced daughter of Fiber Sonde out of Safe at First appears the incarnation of a talented runner the McKees campaigned named Bridging the Gap.

Both creations of the "keeper of the flame" in West Virginia breeding (Fiber Sonde) have that playful arrogant atmosphere, and keen eye focused on the prize. After a slight bobble at the start, Silky Serena was quickly in the bridle for jockey Reshawn Latchman, and like watching a film clip of her previous race (Its Binn Too Long Stakes), finished with determination to garner the $45,900 first-place money.

Bred by her owner, Cynthia McKee, the unpretentious gray/roan filly exhibits superior mettle under fire.

According to agent Marcus Judy, the McKees had reservations about running Silky Serena in the Fancy Buckles.

"John and Cyndi both felt facing older horses was a daunting task, especially after coming off such a grueling win in the Its Binn Too Long," said Judy. "Their last minute decision was made easier by her outside post draw."

This was one of the deepest editions of the stakes named for one of Tim Grams elite distaff sprinters.

Silky Serena only started once as a 2-year-old, but is rapidly making up for lost time by reeling off consecutive stakes scores. With her prolific gene pool and unflinching will to win, a stretch-out in distance could be next on the racing agenda.

NEWS AND NOTES

Jamey Johnson is slowly carving out a niche for himself in the local trainer standings. The man best known as the regular exercise rider for the extraordinary $2-million earner Russell Road, Johnson has been afforded an opportunity to showcase his horsemanship and appears to be making the best of it.

Saturday, June 25, he tightened the girth on Royal Pain for owner/breeder O'Sullivan Farms LLC, and the son of Golden Years out of Royal Passage destroyed the compact group of opponents.

Breaking alertly from the rail, Royal Pain set leisurely fractions before being set down turning for home by rider Reshawn Latchman, and glided to a decisive 6-length victory.

I'll reserve judgment on Royal Pain's future, since this was only his fourth career start, but the impressive final clocking, while making his initial attempt beyond 4½ half furlongs, was genuinely encouraging.

The Johnson barn seems adept at preparing young horses and, according to recent slate of published workouts, has Mark Russell's Hot Fudge Sonde on the comeback trail.

The son of Fiber Sonde out of Changingoftheguard was bred by Francis Daniel III and in seven career starts has three firsts and three seconds.

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- West Virginia offers year-round racing with approximately 300 race days per year.

Chasing
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Race records–Setting them, keeping them

Riding or writing, Sean Clancy eyes a fifth decade of Thoroughbred sport

By Betsy Burke Parker

Champion jockey and Eclipse Award-winning turf writer Sean Clancy's career almost ended at his first finish line.

The year: 1983. The venue: the old Essex point-to-point at Far Hills, New Jersey. The mount: large pony legend Red Raven.

An undergrown Thoroughbred son of multiple stakes-producing sire Gun Shot, out of the multiple stakes-winning mare Myrtle's Jet – herself a close relative of Triple Crown winner Seattle Slew, Red Raven launched the careers of four future National Steeplechase Association champions.

And nearly stopped one in its tracks.

Ever the storyteller, Clancy picks up the tale like it happened over the weekend – gripping lede, well-paced action carrying the reader to a provocative conclusion designed to evoke an emotional response.

"It was my first race, large pony race at Far Hills – we called it Essex then," says Clancy, now 49 and reflecting on the shaky start to his 17-year race riding career. "I won the race, stood up at the wire and my stirrup fell off the saddle. It was on old exercise saddle with the safety bars. I had somehow pushed the safety bar down, and the stirrup slid off.

"I didn't stay on long, maybe five strides, slipped off and Red ran over me.

"Seven stitches in my wrist, (but) I was hooked.

"The part I remember the most, so vividly, is my reaction. When I crossed the wire, stood up and the stirrup fell off, I remember thinking, 'Yup, I knew it couldn't be that easy.' Not surprise, not shock, not dismay. That was my mindset, I guess, as a kid."

©Tod Marks

It got better, Clancy is quick to add. He rode the pony phenom 14 times, winning 10, second in four.

In a way, he credits Red Raven for pulling him into the role he was pretty much born to play.

Youngest son of trainer Joe Clancy Sr., Sean Clancy's grandfather "did the foxhunters" for Donald Ross Sr., and his dad trained racehorses for Don Ross Jr. -- the Ross family were owners of Delaware Park and Brandywine Stable. The junior Clancy took the heritage seriously, going from pony jock to champion jock – in 1998, retiring after the 2000 season to a short stint as trainer, and an ongoing one as owner and agent.

In between, he's been recording the action as a turf writer since he and older brother Joe created the Steeplechase Times in 1994.

"The variables of racing are so vast, (but) there is always the clarity of the finish line," Clancy says, borrowing the words from a fellow turf writer, the late Bill Nack. "This horse crossed the finish line first; he is the winner; this is who we write about; this is history.

"I love that. Every race, every day, the clarity of the finish line in a very clouded world."

Recording history

The 1993 Brookhill Steeplechase changed Clancy's trajectory from race-riding to a more oblique involvement.

He'd ridden a trio of winners at the North Carolina meet, and was excited to get the *Chronicle of the Horse* magazine a few weeks later to see some photos and read the write-up. These were the days before instant results and live-stream feeds, Clancy stresses. If you weren't on site, you had to wait for weeks to find out what happened.

"I hate to say it, but there were a few mistakes – my age was wrong, I was misquoted," he remembers agitating about the article over the telephone to his older brother. "I was in the kitchen of (future wife) Annie's rental in Upperville. I remember saying 'nobody's covering steeplechasing the way it should be covered'.

"We should just start our own steeplechase paper," Sean recalls fuming to Joe, then sports editor at Maryland's *Cecil Whig*.

Joe Clancy apparently took the gripe seriously, because he called Sean back a week later. He'd run some numbers, and told his little brother they could produce seven issues, every other week of the spring and fall circuits. "He said we'd give it away, free, and sell ads to (fund production,)" Sean Clancy says. "Joe said it'd cost us

$5,000 in printing and overhead.

"Even if we didn't sell a single ad, what's the worst that can happen? We're out five grand, but we gave it a try."

The first issue published in March, 1994. At the end of the year, Sean recouped his investment, and the steeplechase fraternity settled in to a pre-internet newsfeed rhythm of a bi-weekly reporting and photo fix.

"People forget that the first time you'd see the charts back then was halfway into the next year when you'd get your steeplechase annual. We didn't used to get overnights online just after entries closed.

"We were providing news in a time when news was hard to get."

In the early days, the brothers would research and write stories, gathering photos where they could – this was also before Tod Marks jumped on the steeplechase bandwagon. They'd handle design, layout and old-fashioned paste-up after the *Whig* went off-boards at midnight.

"It was always grassroots," Clancy says. "We were the original Facebook feed of steeplechasing and horse racing.

Like most successful writers, Clancy is an ardent reader – he loves reading work by sports scribes Joe Palmer, Grantland Rice, Red Smith, Bill Nack, as well as classics by former newsmen Ernest Hemingway and John Steinbeck.

When he was rewarded with turf writing's top prize, the 2009 Eclipse, for once, Clancy struggled to find the words to explain the layers of emotion.

"It's a real thrill for anyone in the business to win an Eclipse Award," he wrote. "It's the pinnacle to win one, whether it's as a jockey or a trainer or for writing. It's always out there, and you're always chasing after it.

"I was humbled. Thrilled. Elated. Thankful."

Janet Elliot on her Turf Writers win with Sean Clancy

"I'd been trying to win the Turf Writers," says Hall of Fame trainer Janet Elliot. "I won every other stake at Saratoga but never that one."

"So I'm there in the barn at Saratoga – those were the years you'd go up for the month, and Sean comes over and says can he ride Hokan in the (1998) Turf Writers. He says, 'Janet, I'll rake your shedrow if you give me the ride.' And he grabs and rake and starts raking.

He came back the next day and didn't say a word. Just grabbed the rake and started raking. The next day, too. I relented and gave him the ride of course.

He won of course."

Sean Clancy on the rest of the story

"The part she left out about the Turf Writers," says Clancy, "is she made a comment that I 'didn't work hard enough.' I was galloping for a flat trainer, rather than galloping for a jump trainer. Better hours, more money, educational, enlightening, more stimulating, galloping Fourstardave and stakes horses on the flat.

"(When) she made that comment, it was late morning. There wasn't much else to do but rake the shedrow, so I picked up the long, metal rake and started raking.

"Once I started, I knew I couldn't stop, or she would be right, that I didn't work hard enough.

"So I raked the whole thing and, yes, I came back the next day and the next day and the next day.

"I don't think I raked the day after winning the Turf Writers. I probably should have.

"Janet really helped me be leading jockey that year – she put me on a couple of sure things in the fall, helped clinch it. I learned a lot from her."

Clancy on learning journalism on-the-job

"(Our) grandfather on mom's side was a news writer," says Clancy. "He wrote a cool outdoors column, he was staff, I think, at the *Wilmington News Journal*.

"I never went to journalism school, but Joe did, so he has helped me with a lot of those writing rules.

"As a writer, you're trying to offer (a) view, some angle that most of the world can't see or doesn't see.

"I hate regurgitation of a horse's form, the typical race review that people can now watch on their phone.

"I want to give the reader an insight that he can't get anywhere else."

Sean Clancy on his muse – older brother, Joe Clancy Jr.

"Joe and I have never had a knock-down, drag-out fight about anything," says Clancy. "I think there are two times, ever, where one of us had to walk away from the other.

"Born five years apart, both Aries, we are very different but we complement each other, we make a good team. We've had our moments of stress, we've dealt with family issues, work issues, but we're brothers, we're always able to work it out.

"My brother has been my single, greatest influence. He is a role model, an ally, a confidant, a sounding board, a cheerleader, a kick-in-the-ass when I needed it.

"There is a good chance I would be a down-and-out old jump jockey without him. I don't forget that."

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Sean Clancy, First and foremost

First mount – Red Raven, pony race at the Oct. 29, 1983 Essex Foxhounds Point-to-Point

First (horse) win(s) – A double at the March 12, 1988 Blue Ridge Point-to-Point

First sanctioned win – Student Dancer at the April 30, 1988 Foxfield Spring Races

First stake win – Tostadero in the handicap at Radnor May 20, 1989

Most noteworthy win – Hokan in the 1998 Turf Writers (pictured right, Skip Dickstein photo from the NSA yearbook)

Bonus most noteworthy win – Rowdy Irishman in the 1997 Grand National at Far Hills.

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Sean Clancy riding William and Renee Lickle's Victorian Hill to victory in the 1993 Van Clief Memorial at the Foxfield Races.

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Looking Back

THE
MARYLAND HORSE
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
MARYLAND HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
STYMIE, world's leading money-winning Thoroughbred, winner of the International Gold Cup, owned by Mrs. Hirsch Jacobs, of the Bieber-Jacobs Farm, Sparks, Md.
Vol. 12, No. 8
AUGUST 1947

75 years ago

■ World-leading money-winning Thoroughbred Stymie, owned by Mrs. Hirsch Jacobs, of the Bieber-Jacobs Farm in Sparks, Md., added to his tally with a victory in Belmont Park International Gold Cup over a field that included Assault and Phalanx. With the announcement that the Pimlico Special would be renewed in October, it was hoped that the great handicapper would be in the field.

"There has been some controversy over Pimlico's announcement that the Special again would be for a prize of $25,000, winner-take-all. One group argues that this is not sufficient money to lure all the top horses of the season whereas another equally large band of race-goers maintains that the size of the purse is immaterial in a 'championship' event such as that called for by the conditions of the Special. . .

"Whether it happens to get the top two or three any given season is largely a matter of luck but at any rate the winner-take-all provisions of the stake make it appealing to those with a taste for the sporting."

Stymie stayed in New York, bypassing the Special, but the race attracted Calumet Farm's Armed. The 1947 Horse of the Year finished third to his 3-year-old stablemate Fervent, who took home the entire $25,000 prize.

■ Laurel Park was set to open in October with renewed interest, as the track would be operating under new management. Henry A. Parr III, president of both Laurel and Pimlico, had many plans for the improvement of Laurel, which never handled as much business as Pimlico. A publicity campaign was being planned in order to boost attendance and mutuel figures. And changes were made to the stabling area to make living quarters more comfortable and sanitary for the backstretch workers.

■ Humphrey Finney's note in The Editor's Saddle-Bag on July 9:

"To Monmouth Park this morning for breakfast, then to watch the judging of the New Jersey-bred yearlings in the first show staged by the New Jersey Breeders' Association. The affair was well attended and drew a good number of nice yearlings. The Helis entries from Jobstown took both colt and filly awards, with Joe Roebling's and Andy Schuttinger's entries also well regarded. Having watched a few races we turned homewards, getting to Baltimore in time for dinner."

■ Favorites triumphed in five out of the six steeplechase events at Bel Air's 10th annual midsummer meeting. Frank D. Adams rode a couple jumpers to some driving finishes, which had spectators on tiptoe. On the flat, jockey Jimmy Baird came out on top of the jockey list, with 14 winners. Annie's Dream set two track records during the 10-day meet, at 5 furlongs and 7 furlongs, while stretching her win streak to five.

■ Mrs. Robert H. Heighe's Prospect Hill Stud near Bel Air, Md., was profiled. Its history included *Durbar II, the last American-owned horse to win the English Derby, who was buried on the lawn of the farm. Bred in France by Herman B. Duryea, *Durbar II won the 1914 Derby for his breeder and stood in France until 1926 when Mrs. Duryea brought him to the U.S. to stand at Claiborne Farm in Kentucky. Five years later the aging stallion was sent to Prospect Hill Stud, where he died shortly thereafter. Heighe, Mrs. Duryea's niece by marriage, inherited a number of the Duryea broodmares, whose descendants included Heighe's recently retired stakes winner Adroit.

25 years ago

■ Ops Smile, at age 5, graduated into the top ranks of the nation's turf performers when the late-running son of Maryland sire Caveat, sent out by classic-winning trainer J. William Boniface, won Belmont Park's Grade 1 Manhattan Handicap.

Boniface won stakes with three horses on four consecutive weekends in May and June. Ops Smile started with a victory in the Dixie Stakes-G2 on Preakness Day; Winsox took Pimlico's Riggs Handicap over reigning Maryland-bred turf champion Awad; and Earth to Jackie deadheated with Cozy Blues in the Hilltop Stakes.

■ Two planeloads—each carrying about 85 young racehorses—were exported to Korea by S & K Trading and Consulting Company of Ellicott City, Md. Two more shipments, one to include broodmares, were planned to leave for Korea in October. With the growing popularity of horse racing in Korea, the Korean Racing Association needed to look beyond their own borders in order to keep up with demand.

LYDIA A. WILLIAMS

Earth to Jackie (center) finished in a dead heat with Cozy Blues (inside) to win the Hilltop Stakes at Pimlico for Bill Boniface. Hoochie Coochie missed by a nose in one of the closest three-way finishes ever recorded at the Maryland track.

"The potential for this program just keeps expanding," said the Maryland Department of Agriculture's director of international marketing, Errol Small. "In addition to the exports, a Korean owner has purchased a horse who is racing here in Maryland—and winning—and other Korean individuals are interested in buying horses to keep in this country."

■ The Maryland Horse Breeders Association's Board of Directors decided, starting with the September 1997 issue, to make the *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* a monthly magazine and convert the *Maryland Horse* into a monthly newsletter.

"We are making changes in our publications that we believe will make them even more valuable to our readers and better positioned to respond to changes in the equine marketplace," wrote editor-publisher Tim Capps.

50 years ago

■ Preakness winner Bee Bee Bee went down to defeat in Liberty Bell's $50,000-added Minuteman Handicap when another Maryland-bred 3-year-old, North Sea, sped to a front-running 7-length score in the 1 1/16-mile race. Owned and bred by Alfred G. Vanderbilt, North Sea recorded the first stakes victory of his career. The $34,440 earned by the gray son of Nearctic more than doubled his lifetime earnings.

■ The Grand National Steeplechase Handicap, run at Belmont Park since 1899, was transferred to Fair Hill where it would be contested in the fall at 2½ miles over hurdles. The transfer was made possible following the New York Racing Association's decision to eliminate jumping races at all New York tracks except Saratoga.

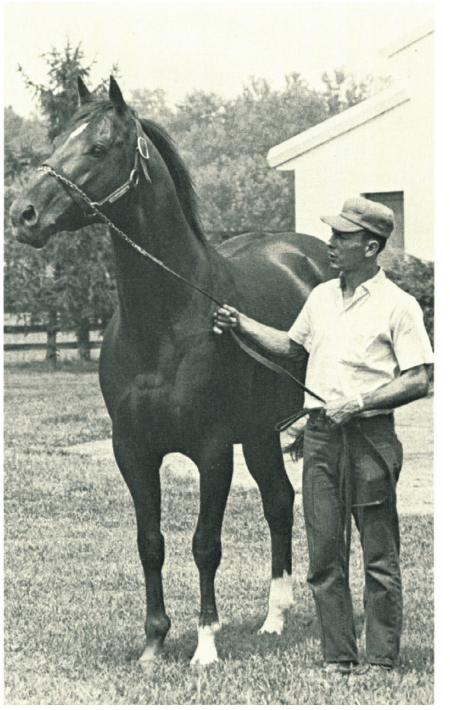
■ Rising 2-year-old Lou Rosenbush, named for a Baltimore advertising executive, stamped himself as a bargain buy for Pimlico's vice-president Nathan L. Cohen, who purchased him for $5,800 out of the Eastern Fall Yearling Sale. A winner in his second start, he was stakes-placed at both Monmouth and Delaware Park during the summer.

Bred by Dr. Harold Eskew with partner Dr. Walter H. Fordham Jr., the son of Longwood Farm stallion Turn to Reason was foaled at Longwood in Maryland but raised at Fordham's Connemara Hill Farm in Factoryville, Pa. (near Scranton), before being sold. Eskew explained: "We entered into an agreement whereby [Fordham] boards the mares at his farm in Pennsylvania, I pay the stud fees and we split the sales prices on a 50-50 basis."

Named Maryland-bred champion 2-year-old male, Lou Rosenbush would win 14 times in 92 starts, had 13 stakes wins or placings, and earned $210,277.

■ Ambernash moved to Allaire duPont's Woodstock Farm in Chesapeake City, Md. The advertisement noted: "A sure, virile horse of commanding conformation, Ambernash is by a champion and out of a champion. . . [he] meets the exacting standards of the St. Augustine breeding center, where he joins such crack sires as Nearctic, and the latter's son, champion Northern Dancer." The son of Nashua and Parlo had been standing at Dr. G.G. Meredith and Thomas J. Kelly's Cedar Lane Farm in Kingsville, Md.

Bred by William duPont Jr., Ambernash entered stud at Panorama Farm in 1966 and stood at Worthington, Cedar Lane, Woodstock and Larking Hill before being sold privately in 1978 to Charles and Cynthia McGinnes, who stood him at their Thornmar Farm in Chestertown until his death in 1988. Ambernash's 18 stakes winners included three-time Maryland-bred champion Pearl Necklace, who was conceived at Woodstock in 1973.



Ambernash surveys his new surroundings at Woodstock Farm in Chesapeake City.

10 years ago

■ Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett approved a new state budget that did not divert $72 million from the Race Horse Development Fund as had been originally proposed in the preliminary budget. The decision drew applause from the Pennsylvania Equine Coalition, a statewide group representing more than 10,000 trainers, owners and breeders of the horse racing industry. The fund derives income from slots revenue at racetracks and is used to support purses and breeding programs for Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds in the state.

■ Pennsylvania-owned, Maryland-based Union Rags learned his early lessons at owner/breeder Phyllis Wyeth's historic Point Lookout Farm, along the Brandywine River in Pennsylvania and Delaware. Sold as a yearling and bought back as a 2-year-old on a gut feeling by Wyeth, the son of Dixie Union trained at Fair Hill by Michael Matz won the Belmont Stakes with an electric stretch run to defeat Paynter by a neck. The win validated the promise in the flashy bay, who was a Grade 1 winner at 2 and entered 2012 the early Kentucky Derby favorite, in which he finished seventh.

The Belmont was Union Rags' last start. He was retired after a small lesion was detected on a suspensory while preparing for the Haskell. Standing at Lane's End in Versailles, Ky., he has sired five Grade 1 winners and is a top-30 sire nationally.

■ Turf-sprinting dynamo Ben's Cat smashed Parx Racing's course record for 5 furlongs in the Parx Dash, posting a 2-length tally in :54.96 for 5 furlongs, eclipsing the old mark of :55.53 set by Smart Enough in the Turf Monster five years earlier. The 6-year-old was dismissed at odds of 10-1 after two off-the-board finishes. His record improved to 16-for-24 for earnings of $939,090.

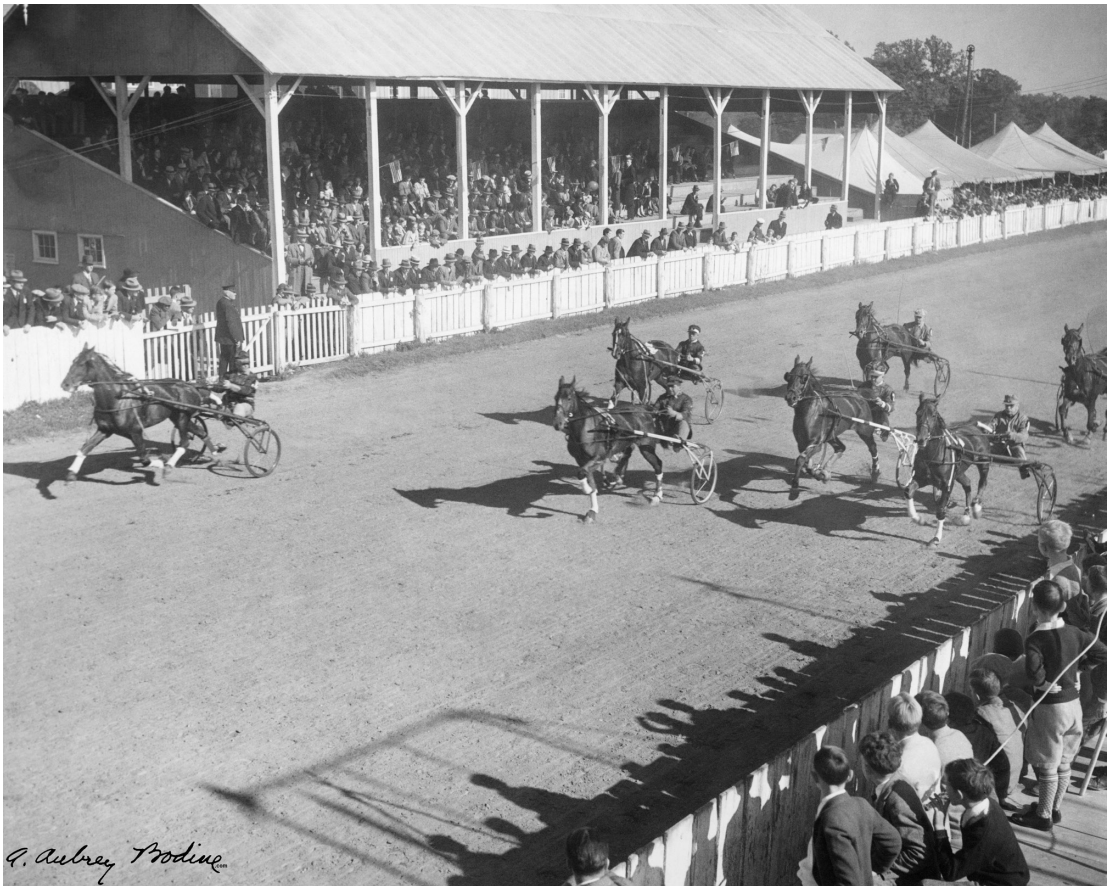
Ben's Cat never went off at double-digit odds again in his remaining 39 starts.

■ Minstrella, one of the retirees who remained at Spring Hill Farm in Casanova, Va., following Edward P. Evan's 2011 dispersal, was euthanized at age 28. The daughter of The Minstrel and Flight Dancer, foaled at Spring Hill and sent to Europe to race, became an Evans foundation mare. The three-time Group 1 winner was Ireland's champion 2-year-old filly of 1986, and went on to produce 16 foals–14 raced, 11 won, three were stakes winners. She was buried on the farm.

■ Trainer Al Stall Jr. picked Bob Manfuso and Katy Voss' homebred colt from the first crop of former Kentucky stallion Thewayyouare as grand champion of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association Yearling Show. Carol Kaye's colt by Great Notion was reserve champion.

The champion–named Idiosyncratic and the older half-brother to stakes winners Cordmaker, Las Setas and Corvus–won once in eight starts and earned $78,060. The son of Great Notion was 2015 Maryland-bred champion turf runner Phlash Phelps.

Future Maryland-bred champion Phlash Phelps poses after winning at the MHBA yearling show while breeder Carol Kaye accepts his prizes.



Here They Come. . . Trotters rolled down the stretch at the 1932 Harford County Fair in Bel Air, Md.–to the delight of a big crowd.

Photojournalist A. Aubrey Bodine, who worked at the Baltimore *Sun* for 50 years–from 1920 until his death in 1970–captured many scenes of Maryland horses, farms and racing. He was regarded worldwide as one of the finest pictorialists of the 20th century. *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* features his work in Past Time.

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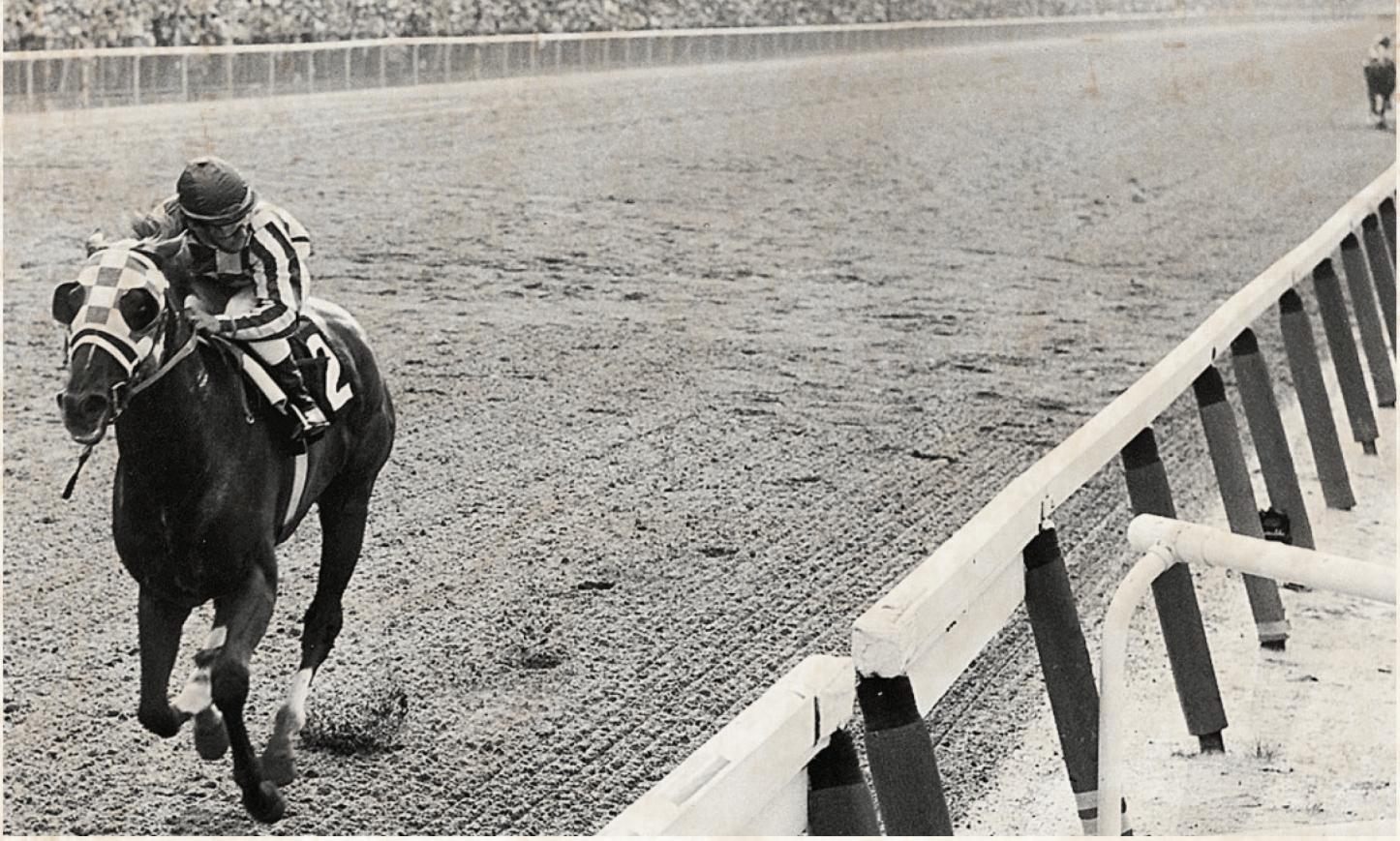

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